



Lieutenant William Anderson

## 'Inhuman' submarine commander sacrificed civilians

By Andrew Moger

Secret details which chronicle the "inhuman" action of a British wartime submarine commander who ordered the sinking of a cargo ship, with the deaths of about 30 women and children aboard, have been obtained by *The Times*.

The chilling story of how HMS *Sturdy* pursued, attacked and finally blew up the ship, knowing that the civilians had no chance of survival, has been suppressed for 44 years. The documents involved are officially classified until 2019.

A 75-year "closure order" has been put on the file at the Public Record Office, Kew, and copies held at the US Navy Operational Archive in Washington will also remain secret until the Ministry of Defence orders declassification.

The Americans are involved because HMS *Sturdy* was under the control of the US fleet at the time of the incident in

waters off Northern Australia.

*The Times* has acquired details of the file and has interviewed the submarine officer who was in charge of blowing up the coaster, and who corroborates the official account. The former officer, Mr Ronald Hardman, says that he argued in vain with his commander to spare the women and children.

He said: "I didn't want to go along with it at all. I disagreed with him. I said I didn't want to do it. I just didn't know what was going on in his mind."

The submarine was commanded by Lieutenant William St George Anderson, who died three years ago, aged 65, in a Guildford hospital. In 1944, HMS *Sturdy* was one of a Royal Naval Reserve flotilla based at Fremantle, Western Australia. On November 20 it left Darwin, and five days later encountered a 350-ton Indonesian coastal vessel,

which Lieutenant Anderson suspected to be a supply ship for the Japanese.

What happened next was "an inhuman action, utterly contrary to the traditional chivalry of the sea, as practised by the Royal Navy", according to another senior naval officer who was asked later to examine the affair.

The officer, Captain Lancelot Shadwell, who was British commander of the submarine flotilla at Fremantle, said in his official account: "The episode reflects no credit on Lieutenant Anderson and will be viewed with distaste and repugnance by the whole submarine service."

In his own report of the sinking, Lieutenant Anderson said HMS *Sturdy* pursued the coaster, which is not named in the documents, and had it stopped by shell fire. Sixty-six shells were fired, and 40 struck the vessel.

But it did not sink. Lieutenant

Anderson brought HMS *Sturdy* alongside, and boarded it. He discovered that about 50 crewmen had already abandoned the coaster in lifeboats, leaving behind the same number of women and children. It seems likely that they were either the families of the Indonesian crew, or Indonesian villagers being transported between islands.

"Owing to the nature of the cargo (oil) and the use of this type of vessel to the enemy, I disregarded the humanitarian side of the question," Lieutenant Anderson says in his own written account. "Having no means at my disposal of saving the lives of the remaining passengers, I placed demolition charges which exploded four minutes later."

Mr Hardman, speaking for the first time about the incident, told *The Times*: "There was no chance of anyone surviving. He (Lieutenant Anderson) knew what he was doing."

Mr Hardman also boarded the coaster and confirmed that it was being used as a Japanese supply boat. "There was a lot of strategic stuff, although I cannot remember specifically now."

But seeing the women and children, he said he felt they should have been left to take their chances on the holed vessel. "We used to fire on these ships, and if one of them sank you might not know who was on board. I didn't want to do anything. We should have left the ship alone."

"I shouted to him (Lieutenant Anderson) what the situation was, but he said, 'Get on with it'. I just had to obey orders or be up on a charge."

As the vessel exploded, HMS *Sturdy* dived below the surface. "The rest of the crew felt as I did. I was in charge of the boarding party and felt very bad about it."

Continued on page 24, col 1

## Alton pledges fight goes on over abortion

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr David Alton and his fellow campaigners for abortion law reform pledged last night to carry on their fight after their latest attempt failed amid angry recriminations in the Commons.

Mr Alton's Bill to reduce the legal time limit for abortions from 28 weeks ran out of time in the face of obstruction which left the Social and Liberal Democrat MP complaining last night

that he had been the victim of "procedural mugging".

But he promised to bring the issue before Parliament again at the earliest opportunity, and MPs were already last night bracing themselves for yet another Bill next session.

After his opponents had deployed a series of delaying

Parliament

tactics, provoking mounting frustration among his supporters, proceedings on Mr Alton's Bill ended without the key amendments to set a new legal limit for abortion at 20, 22 or 24 weeks having been voted upon.

The Bill had been effectively "talked out" and Mr Alton declared that Parliament would be brought into disrepute if MPs were unable to complete their voting.

But with next Friday the only remaining parliamentary day left for report stages of private members' Bills, Mr Alton's drops to third in the list.

His opponents will ensure that the two preceding measures consume enough time to be certain that his will not be reached. It will then be unlikely that the Government provides time, or some procedural device can be unearthed to bring it back.

Mr John Wakeham, leader of the Commons, scotched hopes of the former possibility when he told MPs, to cheers from Alton opponents but hissing from the public gallery, that it was not the Government's practice to give extra time for consideration of individual private members' Bills.

Mr Andrew Mackay, Conservative MP for Berkshire East, who led the Conservative campaign against the Bill, last night blamed Mr Alton for the Bill's failure.

"If Mr Alton and his sponsors had been reasonable their legislation would be heading for the Lords and then the statute book. There was always a majority for 24 weeks."

But he was not prepared to compromise and that led to today's outcome.

That was rejected by Mr Alton who said that Labour spokesmen had made plain they would oppose any reduction of the limit. He told a Westminster press conference last night that he was heartened by the strength of support for reducing the limit.

The Bill had a 45-vote majority at second reading but it was always assumed that the 18-week limit it contained would be raised at a later stage.

Mr Alton's opponents were confident that if a 24-week amendment had been voted upon it would have been passed, and it would have gone on to the statute book.

Mr Alton himself believed he could have won a majority for 20 weeks or 22 weeks.

The structure of yesterday's debate meant that MPs had only time to reject heavily an amendment proposed by Ms Jo Richardson, Labour spokeswoman on women's rights, to set the limit at 26 weeks before time expired.

The Bill's opponents made legitimate use of parliamentary rules to stop the Bill. They spent some time presenting a series of petitions against the Bill and protesting about the order in which the amendments had been selected, and then made lengthy speeches on the two sets of amendments which were called.

It was when Mr Harold Walker, deputy Speaker, refused several attempts to "close" the debate on the time limits that bitterness grew.

Mr Alton said that it had been apparent "that our opponents were afraid of voting" and had resorted to the "shabby device of procedural mugging".

He said: "No Bill on abortion reform has got so far. We do not intend to leave it here. We have won a moral victory. Procedural trickery does not constitute a defeat."

The movement for reform was now so great that the issue would return to Parliament

Continued on page 24, col 5

## 405 not out



## Mammoth innings by Hick

By Our Sports Staff

Graeme Hick, Worcestershire's Zimbabwe-born batsman, made 405 not out against Somerset in the County Championship match at Taunton yesterday, the second-highest score made in a first class game in England.

Hick, who led Worcestershire to a total of 628 for seven declared, finished 19 runs short of A.C. MacLaren's record of 424, made for Lancashire at Taunton in 1895.

MacLaren is the only Englishman to have exceeded 400. The other players are Hanif Mohammad (Pakistan), the record holder with 499, Sir Donald Bradman (Australia), R.B. Nimbalkar (India), W.H. Ponsford (Australia) - twice - and Aftab Baloch (Pakistan).

During his mammoth innings 21-year-old Hick hit 11 sixes and 35 fours

Report, page 42

## Kinnock says Tory poll tide is turning

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday hailed Labour's net gains of 104 seats in the district council elections as marking a sea change in British politics.

Mr Kinnock said his party's further advance from the high-water mark of 1984, when the wards were last contested, gave it a platform from which it would be able to turn the tide decisively against Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

He maintained that the results were a personal defeat for the Prime Minister because she was so closely associated with vital issues such as the community charge and social security changes. Whether she backed down or not, Labour would benefit and the Conservatives would be punished.

However, Labour's moment of glory was tarnished by another bout of internal feuding. Mr Kinnock said that it

would have done even better without the "distraction" of the leadership contest mounted by Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer. Mr Benn retorted that the challenge had helped the party's cause.

Mrs Thatcher was said to be encouraged by the results

Poll results

Stalemate pointer

because Tory fears of a sweeping popular backlash in the wake of the recent backbench rebellions did not materialize.

According to a BBC computer analysis translating the results into the state of the parties nationally, Labour has 41 per cent support, the Tories 38 per cent and the Democrats 20 per cent. This compares with the general election figures of Labour 32 per cent, the

Continued on page 4, col 8

## Rapid thaw after Iran deal

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

France and Iran have wasted no time in building on the improved relations that helped to win the freedom of the three French hostages in Lebanon earlier this week.

Negotiations aimed at the exchange of ambassadors within the next 40 days are already under way, alongside discussions about the final repayment by Paris of a huge Iranian loan.

According to sources close to the French negotiating team, talks are proceeding in a promising atmosphere, helped by what is seen as a moderate factor under Ayatollah Montazeri - the designated successor to Ayatollah Khomeini.

Although the deal between Paris and Tehran was clearly central to the hostages' release,

the precise terms and undertakings agreed have still not emerged in France. It seems certain, however, that the Chirac Government will soon hand over the final \$670 million (£358 million) it owes Iran under the terms of an

Chirac's final gamble

agreement involving a \$1,000 million loan by the late Shah.

Meanwhile, M Chirac and President Mitterrand both addressed their final election rallies last night. Yesterday's big talking point was the return to Paris of Captain Dominique Prieur, the French secret service agent convicted in New Zealand for her part in the 1979 bombing attack on the Greenpeace flagship,

Rainbow Warrior.

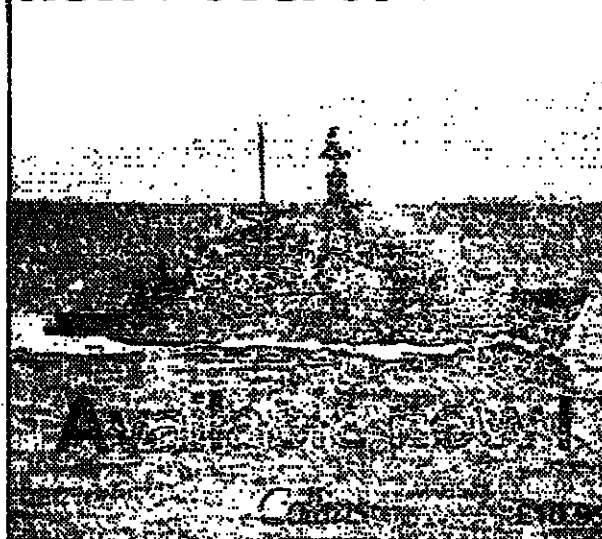
Mr Adham, speaking from Geneva, claimed the deal to free the French hostages involved the repayment of \$628 million to Iran, the payment by Iran to Lebanese terrorists of 10 million francs (£938,000), and a promise from M Chirac that France would be neutral in the Gulf War should he be elected president.

## From Britain's foremost storyteller

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● The game is being played over 18 days, with 10 questions a day. To give readers a chance to catch up, the first week's questions are repeated in today's *Times*. Turn to page 17

INGENUITY

INDEX

Home News	2-5
Overseas	6-9
Business	25-30
Sport	38-42
Arts	20-21
Births, marriages, deaths	35
Bridge	21-25
Cheese	21
Court	21-24
Crosswords	70
Diary	16-26
Entertainment	31-34
Family Money	10-13-19
Information	22
Law Report	34
Leading articles	11
Legal & financial	37
Letters	11
Obituary	12
Parliament	12
Religion	5
Saleroom	10
Science Report	35
Services	23
TV & Radio	14-15
Travel	24
Weather	36

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## Soldier killed, 16 hurt in mortar training

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

A British Army investigation began in Cyprus yesterday after a soldier was killed and 16 others injured in an accident during a training exercise with 81mm mortars.

The soldiers, members of a company from 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards, had been firing five mortars at the training area on the Akamas peninsula in the extreme west of the island.

The injured, one of them in a serious condition, were flown by helicopter to the Princess Mary hospital at the British sovereign base at Akrotiri. The dead soldier was not identified yesterday.

● HANOVER: At least two people were killed and several injured when a British military helicopter crashed and burst into flames at an air show in Hanover, West Germany, yesterday.

Continued on page 24, col 5

## Howe accuses BBC of 'contaminating' evidence

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe last night accused the BBC of "contaminating" evidence by its decision to show a television programme in Northern Ireland about the SAS shooting of three IRA terrorists in Gibraltar.

The Foreign Secretary's bitter condemnation of the corporation came after he had seen the *Spotlight* film which featured interviews with witnesses.

Sir Geoffrey, describing himself as a champion of the BBC, said it was a tragedy that it had taken the decision to go ahead with the broadcast.

His words are the toughest so far in the controversy about the BBC film, and demonstrate that in spite of

widespread criticism of the Government's stance and some disquiet in Conservative ranks, ministers have no intention of backing down.

They were also seen as evidence of the growing tension in the relationship between the Government and broadcasters.

Sir Geoffrey said he was very seriously disquieted by the fact that the programme was shown at all.

"It does concern me deeply because it did contain the very features about which I have warned."

"The interviewing of witnesses, the presentation of their evidence in interview form in a selective, edited fashion is precisely calculated to contaminate the evidence and influence unhelpfully the way in which

the inquest will be conducted."

Sir Geoffrey insisted that there was a danger that the Northern Ireland screening could influence the Gibraltar inquest jury, which is expected to hear evidence in late June or early July, because the previous Thames Television programme on the shooting has been shown in the colony and because extracts from the BBC programme had been broadcast on the radio.

He was also worried about the encapsulation of witnesses' statements in interview form.

"It has or may have not just an adverse effect on the jury at the inquest but on those who are yet to give evidence."

"I am a profoundly committed

champion of a free Press and free broadcasting but they do have a high standard of responsibility," he said in a BBC radio interview.

Earlier, it was disclosed that before viewing the programme Sir Geoffrey had written to Mr Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the BBC, telling him that the screening would cause "a serious risk of contaminating the evidence" before the inquest and he feared the programme "would directly affect the security forces of this country".

● Dr Colin Morris, the BBC Controller in Northern Ireland, yesterday defended its decision to broadcast the *Spotlight* programme. All the material was already in the public domain.



## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Nun murdered in cathedral

A nationwide hunt was launched last night after a nun was found murdered at St Mary's Roman Catholic cathedral in Aberdeen. Detectives sealed off the cathedral in Huntly Street after the woman, aged about 60, who had been stripped naked, was discovered barely alive yesterday afternoon. A doctor was called, but the woman died soon afterwards.

Police named the nun as Sister Josephine Ogilvy, who helped to run the Pastoral Centre at the cathedral.

Detectives are seeking a man aged about 25 described as having a dishevelled appearance. A spokesman said: "He is about 5ft 10in, well built with short hair. He has a silver stud in his left nostril. He was seen running from the cathedral. We know from our investigations that he does not have a local accent."

## School safeguards

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, disclosed his detailed plans yesterday for protecting the religious character of church schools. He tabled amendments which are expected to be added to the Education Reform Bill in the House of Lords on Thursday. The changes were recommended by church leaders who were worried that the proposals for allowing schools to opt out of local authority control could destroy the traditional ethos of their schools. Mr Baker's amendments will give the trustees the power to veto any change in control of the school likely to make "a significant change in the religious character".

## Drug raid PC stabbed

A police constable was taken to hospital with a collapsed lung after he was stabbed in the back during a drugs raid in Bristol. Officers were outnumbered as they arrested a suspected drug dealer outside a cafe where riots began in 1981. They were pelted by bricks and bottles and PC Andrew Mahoney, aged 31, was stabbed.

The wife of a police constable was awarded £100 at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after her husband was assaulted. The judge said he was unable to pay the officer.

## Diver inquest refused

The parents of a diver who disappeared off the south coast of England while on his first dive with a club yesterday lost their High Court plea for an inquest. The court ruled that Dr Donald Gooding, the East Sussex Coroner, was right to rule that as Trevor Healy, aged 17, had died eight or nine miles off the coast, the death was beyond his jurisdiction. Mr Peter Healy and his wife, Marian, of Biggin Hill, Kent, said they were not satisfied with an inquiry held by the Department of Transport under the Merchant Shipping Act. Their son, a good swimmer, was lost in August 1986.

## Asylum plea rejected

Nineteen protesting Turks have been returned to Istanbul in an aircraft chartered by Yugoslav Airlines (JAT) after their applications for asylum were rejected. The Home Office said yesterday. At the request of JAT escorts were provided by the Metropolitan Police and a doctor also travelled on the aircraft. The Turks claimed to be Kurds, but they did not live in a Kurdish area of Turkey; they were not fluent in the language; and had little knowledge of Kurdish culture.

## 'Fire threat' to officer

A prison officer taken hostage at Peterhead jail, north-east Scotland, considered jumping from the roof to end his ordeal, a jury was told yesterday. Mr Jackie Stuart said a prisoner had put two cans of lighter fuel in his pockets and threatened to set fire to him. He told the High Court in Peterhead that he and another officer were beaten with table legs after prisoners took over a prison hall last September. Mr Stuart identified Malcolm Leggat, Samuel Ralston, Douglas Mathewson and John Devine as prisoners who were involved. The trial continues on Monday.

## Freemason judges deny conspiracy claims

By David Nicholson-Lord

Senior legal figures named as freemasons yesterday called for greater openness by the order but described allegations of a widespread conspiracy as ludicrous.

Lord Templeman, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary since 1982, and Sir Ian Fergusson QC, Solicitor-General from 1979-83, were on a list of leading judges, lawyers and police officers identified as masons last night by the Channel 4 programme *Dispatches*.

The programme named 24 judges, including Lord Justice Stoker and Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, and several leading QCs, and said that four Scotland Yard commanders and 12 chief superintendents were members.

It described freemasons as

an "exclusive fraternity jealous of its secrets" and said the rules forbidding masons from benefiting from membership should be more widely known.

Lord Templeman, a mason for 40 years, yesterday described charges of a conspiracy as "astonishing". He said membership had had no effect on his judicial or professional decisions.

Sir Ian, a mason for 30 years and a member of the Canada Lodge, said it had not influenced his judgement and he had no idea how many MPs were masons.

"When I used to sit as a recorder I always thought that if somebody disclosed to me that he was a mason I would give him an extra year. But the problem was to avoid being prejudiced. It would be just as wrong to give an extra year as to give a year less."

## £1,000-a-week patient

By Craig Seton

A violent, brain-damaged patient kept in a general hospital for two years because no psychiatric unit in Britain could take him is to receive private treatment at a cost to the National Health Service of nearly £1,000 a week.

He has attacked staff and patients at Birmingham General Hospital. In his two years there his treatment and the hire of specialist psychiatric nurses from a private agency has cost about £70,000, at the rate of £100 a day.

The unnamed man, in his thirties, was brain damaged when he fell down stairs, aggravating a clinical condition. He was admitted to the general hospital for treatment to his head injury.

He is to be transferred to the privately-run St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, later this month. The £44,000 annual cost of his treatment there will be met by the Central Birmingham Health Authority, which is expected to be heavily overspent.

## Foreign Office clerk on gun charges

By Michael Horsnell

A Foreign Office clerk was yesterday remanded in custody for seven days by magistrates on two charges of unlawfully possessing hand guns.

Nigel John Hicks, aged 30, a Territorial Army soldier for the past 11 years, was charged with illegal possession of a nine millimetre Mauser pistol and a .22 calibre revolver, without firearms certificates.

Mr Hicks, a single man from Merton, south-west London, was arrested on Thursday. He was escorted into Wimbledon magistrates court wearing a paper bag over his head.

The TA second-class warrant officer, was supported by his father, Mr John Hicks, of Sanderstead, Surrey, a retired managing director of a shipping firm who is a consultant with the Bank of England and the Overseas Economic Development Corporation. Mr John Hicks spoke in court on behalf of his son's bail application, which magistrates rejected.

NUS accused of breach of confidence and mischief  
Police inquiry on Zeebrugge leak

By David Sapsted and Robin Young

Kent police yesterday ordered an inquiry into the leaking of an internal report critical of P&O management and the Belgian authorities in the wake of last year's Zeebrugge ferry disaster, which claimed 193 lives.

A Kent police spokesman said the leaking of the document, obtained by *The Times* from sources within the National Union of Seamen was "an act of gross mischief-making".

The spokesman said: "This is a serious breach of confidence and an internal inquiry by a senior officer has commenced."

Kent police said that the force had never criticized either P&O or the Belgian authorities for their handling of the Zeebrugge disaster. *The Times* story on Friday contains excerpts from an internal Kent police report which was a factual, warts-and-all report from one officer closely involved in the identification of bodies, the police said.

"It was intended as a frank contribution to the review and learning exercise aimed at improving disaster management by all concerned."

"The disclosure of such a confidential document is an act of gross mischief-making, is damaging to the public interest and some details if published could cause distress."

The Kent police memorandum on the Zeebrugge ferry disaster is deeply critical of the way in which lists of survivors and victims were compiled after the disaster, and of the viewing arrangements made for the identification of the dead.

It says that Kent officers sent to Belgium to assist the Belgian police "were met with a scene of complete chaos, confusion and sad to say,

inefficiency...". Liaison between the three Belgian police forces covering the disaster was "at best not good and at its worst non-existent".

The report says that victim identification was conducted "with a lack of dignity, respect and compassion for the relatives. Bodies were not made cosmetically 'acceptable' before viewing and many relatives compelled to view lines of bodies 'were in a state of hysteria'."

Judge Arthur d'Hoest, the man in overall charge in Belgium, is described as having been "content to let the individual agencies do their own thing... unfortunately, it appeared his decisions depended upon who had last spoken to him".

For a week after the disaster, the report says "extreme difficulty was experienced in obtaining a decision from Judge d'Hoest as to what

standard he required before he would accept positive identification."

Captain John de Winne, of the Belgian police, who was put in sole command of victim identification, is described as "an efficient, enthusiastic, tireless officer" placed in an invidious position.

"He was at times emotionally and physically drained, yet he appeared to be the only officer with responsibility for the operation and as such did not seem able to share the burden."

The memorandum says that although Kent police's list of victims and survivors was eventually accepted as definitive Mr Peter Ford, chairman of the ferry operators, then named Townsend Thoresen, refused to accept it and compelled a subordinate to withdraw a statement in which he had said he would not argue with the police figures.

## Left takes credit for ferry stand

By Sheila Gann  
Political Staff

Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer, challengers for the Labour leadership, yesterday claimed credit for the party's swift display of solidarity with the striking seamen.

Mr Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, said the party's support and the appearance of leading front bench spokesmen on the picket line at Dover demonstrated the impact of his challenge to Mr Neil Kinnock.

Both left-wing candidates argued that the party's response, when compared with the slower, more patchy support for the miners and printers, coupled with Labour's good local election results, exonerate them from criticism over their decision to initiate a leadership contest.

Mr Benn refused to accept that the seamen in dispute with P&O could eventually "lose". History showed, he said, that all great victories grew out of defeats.

At a Westminster press conference yesterday, the two candidates set out their intensive programme of rallies and speeches leading up to the elections at the party's annual



A P&O shareholder arguing with pickets yesterday outside a company meeting in London (Photograph: Alan Reeve).

conference in Blackpool in October.

Both MPs accused the present leadership of making subtle changes away from the policies decided at the annual conferences on such issues as membership of the EEC, the return of privatized industries to public ownership and even the adoption of the red rose as the party's emblem.

Mr Benn said: "Labour's conference has for a long time wanted one set of policies and those policies have been to-

## Widow's home hit as attacks mount

By David Sapsted

Mounting intimidation surrounding the seamen's strike, including an overnight attack on the home of a widow aged 81, was condemned as "utterly deplorable" yesterday by Mr Michael Howard, MP for Folkestone.

The Conservative MP appealed to the National Union of Seamen to stop the intimidation and vandalism suffered by P&O staff who had continued or returned to work.

He cited the case of a youth from Folkestone whose car had been vandalized and who had been threatened as he boarded a P&O coach taking him to work.

There were three further incidents, all in Deal, Kent, of people's homes being daubed with the word "scab" yesterday, bringing the total of such attacks to 20 in little more than a week.

Two of the victims were seamen working on strike-breaking shifts. The third was an elderly widow who police said was "very shaken" as a result.

"This may have been a case of mistaken identity but that is of little comfort to the old lady who suffered", a senior officer at Dover said.

Early yesterday, accountants appointed to carry out the High Court's sequestration order moved in to the NUS offices in Dover, from where the three-month strike has been co-ordinated. NUS officials and sacked seamen were ordered out.

Local union officials are believed to have set up office in the headquarters of Dover Labour Party, where files had been taken earlier.

"They can have our building and our money but they will not break our strike", Mr John Wood, a member of the Dover NUS Port Committee, said.

Sealink NUS members at Dover later agreed to continue the dispute at a mass meeting closed to both the Press and P&O strikers. Mr Sam McCluskie, NUS general secretary, described the decision to stay out as unanimous, though he agreed that a vote had not been taken.

A seaman aged 39, from Deal, will appear at a special sitting of Dover magistrates today facing two charges of criminal damage. It is understood the charges relate to damage to homes.

## Seamen's strike is tearing Dover families apart

By David Sapsted

Dover has been transformed into a bitter and divided community by the three months of the seamen's strike, according to the vicar of St Mary's, the seafarers' church in the heart of the town.

"It is so sad. It has divided crews and it has divided Dover", the Rev Allan Simper says. A stained glass window to the Zeebrugge dead was dedicated in his church two months ago.

The divisions caused by the

seamen's strike are tearing apart families as brother defies brother by crossing the picket line outside the ferry terminals.

Able Seaman Phil West went back to work. His brother, Barry, a former deck storeman, and his sister, Anne, a former stewardess, both took medical severance rather than accept new P&O contracts.

The brothers — sons of Mr Doug West, a seamen's union convenor at Dover who died

last year — are no longer on speaking terms.

Barry West, aged 40, from Maxton, Dover, says he felt an uncontrollable rage after his brother had told him he was returning to work in one of the two strike-breaking ferries.

"My dad must be trying to get out of his grave. He served the NUS faithfully and he would expect his sons to do the same", he said.

"I certainly will not forgive Phil for what he has done and

I cannot believe dad would either."

The Holly brothers, too, have been irrevocably split by the strike. Allan, aged 32, has been manning the picket lines while Martin, a chief cook, has helped to bring the two strike-breaking ferries out of Rotterdam.

"The first thing I knew was when I saw on TV a big limousine waiting for the seabs in Rotterdam", Allan said.

"I could not believe my eyes

when I saw one of the seabs was my own brother. I will never forgive him for as long as I live. I do not want to see him ever again."

But whatever side individuals are taking in the Dover dispute, all agree that things might never be the same for the town and many of its families.

"There are no bluebirds over the white cliffs of Dover any more. Just some very dark clouds", Mr Simper said.

## Irish move to seize terrorist funds

By Paul Vallely

The Irish government is considering laws which would make the handling of terrorist funds an offence and permit the seizure of money in bank accounts held on behalf of paramilitary organizations.

The powers are part of a wide-ranging package to curb racketeering and smuggling by the IRA and Protestant paramilitary organizations, along with other, legitimate business operations conducted by terrorist bodies north and south of the border, according to Irish government sources in Dublin.

Under the measures, set out in an official document, *A Proposal for New Powers in Respect of Terrorist Finance*, handling funds on behalf of outlawed groups would become an offence punishable by 14 years imprisonment.

The bodies of the three RAF servicemen killed in The Netherlands by IRA terrorists were flown home yesterday.

Coffins bearing the bodies of Senior Aircraftman John Reid, John Baxter and Ian Shimmer, draped in Union flags and with their service dress hats on top, were placed aboard an RAF Andover for the flight home from RAF Wildenrath, West Germany.

They would also give police access to personal bank accounts and permit the seizure of terrorist funds.

In recent years, fundraising by IRA front operations in the US has been less successful and the organization has depended increasingly on illegal and legal business activities to finance its military purchases. The arms confiscated from the gun-running ship, the

Two tanks stood with gun barrels raised in salute. A Phantom jet and two Harriers performed a low-level fly past.

The body of Senior Aircraftman Shimmer was taken off the aircraft at RAF Northolt, west London, where it was met by a guard of honour of the Queen's Colour Squadron. The bodies of the other two were flown to Glasgow for funerals today.

Ekmsund, last year were worth £25 million alone and were thought to be typical of three or four shipments in the past two years.

The cash for such deals is said to be supplied by a network of businesses run by accountants, estate agents and other professionals. Large sums are also raised from nationalist pubs and drinking clubs as well as from protec-

tion rackets and cross-border smuggling. The Irish Times suggested yesterday that the security forces had "firm evidence" that IRA racketeering also goes on among the Irish community in London.

Existing laws on money known to be for terrorist purposes under the 1984 Prevention of Terrorism Act are "designed to deal with collecting boxes in pubs rather than sophisticated systems", the document is reported to say.

Similar laws already exist in the Irish Republic. The Dublin High Court this week upheld as constitutional a police move to freeze £1.7m lodged in the Navan branch of the Bank of Ireland in County Meath. The account was held by a Dublin and New York pub owner and businessman Mr Alan Clancy and another man by the name of Mr David McCartney.

## Victory on equal pay may hit jobs

By John Spicer  
Employment Affairs Correspondent

The jobs of hundreds of company catering staff could be at risk because of Thursday's Lords ruling that a shipyard canteen cook was entitled to the same pay rates as craftsmen.

The decision was hailed by the Equal Opportunities Commission, the TUC and the GMB union, which took up Miss Julie Hayward's successful case against Cammell Laird shipbuilders.

However the catering industry said yesterday that the judgement could backfire on unions.

It argues that if demands are made on the basis of the Hayward decision in the next round of pay negotiations, companies with in-house catering may be encouraged to look to outside caterers to avoid the problem. The direct result of such a move would be fewer jobs.

Contract caterers, such as Compass, which is the biggest in the country with 20,000 employees at 2,600 locations, say they expect management to react in that way. Mr Keith Chapman, their employment development manager, said there were a number of reasons why many firms did their own catering, but faced with the threat of being taken to an industrial tribunal on an equal pay claim, they may well be tempted to close their canteens and bring in outsiders.

The Hotel Catering and Institutional Management Association, representing outside caterers, said there were many factors involved — the first being that companies were giving their canteen staff a poorer pay and conditions deal than their other workers. Many in sensitive industries or restricted areas needed to employ their own staff.

An official commented: "Certainly there is a possibility that companies will be looking again at their in-house catering."

Last night the GMB said it did not believe companies would dismiss their canteen staff and bring in contract caterers, just to avoid equal pay laws.

## Car sales are on a record run

By Daniel Ward  
Motor Industry Correspondent

A record 750,000 new cars have been sold in Britain in the first four months of the year as buoyant demand pushed sales more than 10 per cent higher than in 1987.

Ford, the market leader, lost ground for the second successive month because of low stocks after its two-week strike in March.

However, last month the company imported almost 60 per cent more cars than in April 1987 to improve supplies.

The truck market is expanding even faster, with sales up 15.2 per cent in April against the same month last year.

Leyland Daf, the Anglo-Dutch truck maker, yesterday said unexpectedly high domestic sales and growing European demand were behind its 15 per cent increase in production to 68 trucks a day.

A hundred workers facing redundancy at the Rover Group-owned engine plant on the Leyland site will now be offered jobs.

Peugeot and Vauxhall both improved their market share in the first four months of this year as Ford slipped back from 28.3 to 26.1 per cent of the market and Austin Rover dropped from 16.0 to 15.4 per cent.

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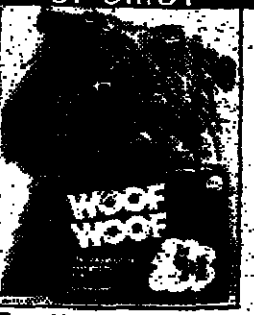
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# Bogus doctor jailed after treating Aids patients in hospital

A bogus doctor who pretended to treat Aids patients at three hospitals was jailed for 18 months yesterday.

Mark Lloyd-Flynn, aged 21, a trainee medical researcher, was trying to "do deliberate injury" to Southwark Crown Court, south-east London, was told.

However, Mr Peter Clarke, for the prosecution, criticized security at the three London hospitals where Lloyd-Flynn had gained access. He said: "There had been stringent checks at these hospitals these matters may never have happened."

The court was told that Lloyd-Flynn had diagnosed his own medications for Aids victims, defying doctor's orders. He had dressed for the part wearing a white coat with an electronic paging device and a stethoscope.

Mr Clarke said: "He was seeking to do deliberate injury to the people he was dealing with. He must have known perfectly well he was placing them in considerable danger. He was stalking the wards seeking to do harm to people suffering from the Aids epidemic."

Mr Clarke said Lloyd-Flynn had tried three or four times to take a blood sample from a patient while nurses watched, but had failed. The nurses put it down to nervousness and took over while Lloyd-Flynn left the ward.

He had convinced staff at St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham; St Mary's Hospital, Paddington; and the Middlesex Hospital, Camden, that he worked there.

Mr Clarke said: "Nurses assumed he was a bona fide research doctor attached to an outside concern. He developed an obsession with medical matters and that obsession seemed to centre on treatment for sufferers of the HIV complaint."

Lloyd-Flynn, of Yorkley House, Barbry Road, North

Kensington, west London, admitted three charges of unlawful wounding and two of common assault in a two-week period in April last year.

The court was told Lloyd-Flynn had first gone to St Stephen's Hospital and had talked to Aids patients to gain their confidence. After only two days, he took blood from a patient who was about to die while the ward doctor was absent.

"He did not have the sense or courage either to leave the



● He was stalking the wards seeking to do harm to people suffering from the Aids epidemic ●

ward or make it clear he should not be there", Mr Clarke said.

His downfall came about after he decided to change patients' treatment. Doctors had found to their concern and annoyance that patients' antibiotics had been changed. Lloyd-Flynn was quickly arrested.

The court was told that he had visited St Mary's Hospital only once and had left after a nurse told him he had no right to be there. However, at the

two other hospitals he talked to dying Aids victims, telling them he had travelled to San Francisco to research Aids.

He misled other medical staff by casually naming other hospital doctors and using medical jargon which he listed in a red book he carried with him.

Mr Clarke said he had once tried to replace a blocked intravenous drip on a patient. "He was very nervous and his hands were shaking, but even when a nurse volunteered to take over he said no and continued to fail with that blockage."

After his arrest, Lloyd-Flynn told the police: "I am doing research. It is absurd to think I am a bogus doctor. I am qualified as an MMBS, a bachelor of medicine and surgery, and can class myself as a doctor."

The court was told that Lloyd-Flynn had been fined £150 in 1986 for stealing prescription pads from a doctor's surgery in order to obtain tranquilizers.

Mr Kieran Coonan, counsel for Lloyd-Flynn, said: "He became a fascinated observer into cases of this serious disease and is someone living in cloud cuckoo land with hopeless expectations of his own abilities."

Mr Coonan said Lloyd-Flynn's girl friend had died in April 1986. He had taken an overdose immediately after.

Judge Clarkson, QC, said: "It would be a very sad day indeed if hospitals in this country were entered by people who had a curiosity about treatment for their patients."

"It was unlawful interference with the integrity of a number of people lying seriously ill. What you were doing was quite deliberately disguising yourself as a doctor and in my mind it is significant that even when you were challenged you persisted you were still a doctor."

# Missing MPs make the frame



By Andrew Morgan

Andrew Festing, the portrait artist, standing in his studio yesterday beside a painting of MPs who failed to appear in an official Commons portrait last year and decided to commission their own.

The painting will be unveiled next month in the strangers' dining room in the House of Commons. It will hang opposite last year's painting by June Mendoza, which features members of the Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet, senior MPs and others drawn on a ballot.

Some 290 MPs were excluded from the official painting and Mr Mark Lennox-Boyd, a junior government whip, set about organizing another

which is known as "The Other Picture".

Some 156 MPs came forward to appear in the Festing painting, for which they paid £100 each. They include Conservatives Sir Patrick Mayhew, Mr Leon Brittan, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Tim Sainsbury, Mr John Major, Mr Jonathan Aitken, Mrs Edwina Currie, and Mrs Angela Rumbold. Labour members include Mr Doug Hoyle, Mr Stuart Bell and Mr Geoffrey Robinson. Mr Cyril Smith, the Liberal MP, is among others featured.

The picture is unique among paintings of MPs with its suite of seven scenes on one canvas measuring 52in by 116in.

They start in the upper left corner with the largest group in the members'

smoking room and then depict the reference room, the Oriel room, libraries A, B and C and finally the silence room where a few members are seen talking.

The full title is: "The Other Picture: A view of the smoking room and library of the House of Commons in March 1987, commissioned for the House by 156 of the members of Parliament who were not included in the Official Painting".

Mr Festing, aged 46, said: "The title is a slight joke. We thought we would try to break the tradition of the form of parliamentary painting featuring hundreds of heads which dates back to the eighteenth century."

(Photograph: Denzil McNeelance)

## Medical ethics

# BMA approves brain cell transplants

By Thomson Prentice and Craig Seton

The British Medical Association yesterday issued ethical guidelines which forbid the possibility of a human brain transplant, but which approve the controlled use of brain cell implants from aborted foetuses.

Operations involving foetal tissue, such as those recently performed in Britain in an attempt to help sufferers of Parkinson's Disease, can be carried out if adequate safeguards are observed by doctors, the association said.

The neurosurgeon who performed Britain's first brain cell implants using aborted foetal material said yesterday that he hoped the new guidelines would end the ethical controversy which had surrounded his work.

Professor Edward Hitchcock, Professor of Neurosurgery at Birmingham University, said he welcomed the guidelines.

He said the guidelines were

the ones he had been following already, under the terms of the 1972 Peel Report, when he transplanted brain tissue from aborted foetuses into the brains of two patients.

The BMA said that only nervous tissue, used as isolated neurones or small tissue fragments, could be transplanted, thus barring the path towards whole brain transplants.

Although such operations are technically impossible at the moment, the association has tacitly acknowledged that future scientific advances could make them feasible.

Dr Vivienne Nathanson, of the Association's ethical committee, said: "The whole brain contains genetic memory which makes it completely different from any other organ."

"The one thing that everybody believes to be unacceptable would be a whole brain transplant. The chances really

should include a reference to therapeutic uses, such as brain cell implants.

"Tissue may only be obtained from dead foetuses resulting from therapeutic or spontaneous abortion", the guidelines say.

"Transplantation activity must not interfere with the method of performing abortions, nor the timing of abortions, or influence the routine abortion procedure of the hospital in any way."

It would be unethical for a woman to become pregnant, or to have an abortion, solely to produce foetal material.

There should be no link between the donor and the recipient of foetal material, no financial reward involved in donation, and every project concerned with foetal tissue transplantation must be approved by the local ethical research committee, according to the guidelines.

# Prescribed drugs 'caused 616 deaths'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The deaths of 616 people in Britain in the past two years have been attributed by the Government's Committee on Safety of Medicines to adverse reactions to prescribed drugs.

In addition, doctors reported 15,191 other adverse drug reactions in 1986 and an even higher number, 16,151, last year.

Nevertheless the committee, set up after the Thalidomide tragedy to monitor the side effects of new drugs, says that "adverse reactions are still grossly under-reported".

Publishing the latest figures of adverse reactions in the *British Medical Journal*, the committee asks "all doctors and

dentists to report all suspect reactions with new drugs, and serious reactions only with older established drugs".

An analysis of the reports from hospital and family doctors showed that the group of drugs most frequently associated with serious and life-threatening reactions were the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents commonly used for arthritis.

One of these drugs, etodolac, introduced in 1986, was linked with 421 reports of suspected adverse reactions, and 80 were serious effects with one death.

"Serious suspected drug reactions associated with etodolac included

gastrointestinal, skin and pulmonary reactions", the committee said.

At that stage the drug's toxicity could not be distinguished from that of other similar drugs available on prescription.

The report also named the anti-depressant fluvoxamine, launched in 1987, saying it had been linked with 626 adverse reaction reports.

An anaesthetic agent called propofol, launched in June 1986, had been associated with 156 adverse reactions, including 83 serious and five deaths.

The committee said it was "too early to draw firm conclusions about the adverse reaction profiles of drugs introduced during 1986 and 1987".

# Man 'fled with debts of £4.2m'

A businessman with debts of £4.2 million was said yesterday to have fled abroad in a Rolls-Royce full of valuable paintings and objects d'art.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Anton Herbert de Kassel, aged 47, formerly of Chesterfield Walk, Mayfair, central London, sometimes known as Count or Doctor Anton von Kassel.

His assets were listed as being worth £27 million, and his annual personal income as £300,000, but Mr Patrick Chillery, the official receiver, said at a meeting of creditors at Atlantic House, Holborn, central London, yesterday: "No evidence as to the existence of the assets as scheduled has been presented to me."

A receiving order was made against him in 1977 but he failed to surrender to the proceedings. Unpaid debts in that bankruptcy total £392,596, the meeting was told.

The National Westminster Bank, which had advanced more than £3 million on overdraft to him and his companies, presented the petition which made him bankrupt for the second time in March this year.

# Informer gets jail sentence 'discount'

By Michael Horsnell

A leading underworld informer was sentenced to 16 years in prison at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after admitting armed robberies involving £1.4 million.

Donald Barrett, aged 51, who twice turned informer during his criminal career, will spend his time in solitary confinement knowing there is a £250,000 contract on his life because he helped to put a number of criminals behind bars.

Mr Graham Parkins, QC, for Barrett, said: "There is no hiding place for Donald Barrett. His life is in considerable danger. The information that he has given is so sensitive that details cannot be given in public."

Barrett, of Ilford, Essex, informed on criminals in 1981, and again after he was arrested in 1986.

He admitted taking part in seven armed raids, three conspiracies to rob, one attempted robbery and one case of false imprisonment.

Detectives have only recovered £3,000 of his £280,000 share from the hold-ups.

He and his accomplice David Croke, aged 47, terrorized their victims. Mr Julian Bevan, prosecuting, said that Barrett and Croke

took part in robberies in which staff were taken hostage at gunpoint and a security guard was drenched in petrol and threatened with being set alight.

Judge Michael Coombe said he was giving Barrett, who had been of "enormous assistance" to police, a 25 per cent discount in sentence. Croke, from Broxbourne, Herts, was jailed for a total of 23 years. He admitted taking part in four robberies involving £1 million, false imprisonment and firearms offences.

Barrett was trapped after flying in from Portugal on the eve of a £300,000 gold bullion raid on a security van. He and Croke, who had not known his partner had been an informant, were caught while carrying out the robbery at Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire.

The judge told Barrett: "Taking everything into account, I think it would be reasonable to recognize the assistance you have given to the public in revealing so much to the police, by giving a discount which also takes into account the difficulties you are going to have in your lengthy prison sentence."

Both men were made criminally bankrupt by the judge.

# Nurse murdered sons after failing driving test

A nurse was so depressed after failing her driving test that she murdered two of her sons then committed suicide, an inquest was told yesterday.

Mrs Esmeda Smith, a divorcee, aged 35, plunged surgical scissors into Christopher, aged four, and Robert, aged six, then stabbed herself with them before setting the house on fire.

She also tried to kill her eldest son, Stephen, aged seven, in the same way, but he survived by leaping from a bedroom window of their home in Grantwood Close,

Redhill, Surrey, as it was engulfed in flames.

Mr Michael Burgess, the coroner, was told that Mrs Smith was devastated after failing the test on her fourth attempt two days before the tragedy, and then being in a road crash the next day while driving without L-plates.

He recorded verdicts that Mrs Smith unlawfully killed Christopher and Robert and took her own life while the balance of her mind was disturbed.

The inquest at Reigate was told that Mrs Smith had

bought a new car and was determined to get a full driving licence. She was shattered when she failed the examination.

She kept the news secret from her former husband, Stephen, aged 28, when he phoned the night before the killings.

Mr Smith, a systems manager of Stratford, east London, said he spoke to his former wife only briefly and talked with his children.

"Esmeda would sacrifice anything for the children. I didn't notice any difference in

her at all and I had a normal conversation with the children", he said.

The next day Mrs Smith who was suffering from pre-menstrual tension plunged the scissors into her sons before setting fire to a polyurethane foam-filled armchair and cushions which she dragged to the bottom of the stairs.

Stephen dropped into the arms of Glyn Fritchard, a neighbour, who stood under the first floor window and persuaded the boy to jump.

Wing Commander Ian Hill, pathologist, said that in spite

of the stab wounds to the heart, the children were still alive as smoke filled the house. They would have survived if they had not inhaled the fumes.

He had discovered that Mrs Smith had suffered from pre-menstrual problems. "Pre-menstrual problems are associated with emotional unbalance", he said.

The coroner said Mrs Smith, who had tried to commit suicide by an overdose four years earlier, was under a lot of stress as a single mother.

# Unseen thieves make off with an ancient wood

By Robin Young

Thieves have robbed the London borough of Harrow of seven and a half acres of designated ancient woodland. They felled hundreds of oak and beech trees, using bulldozers, chainsaws, several articulated lorries and possibly a mobile crane, and made off unnoticed with the trunks.

Mr Ian Barrow, Harrow council's arboricultural officer, said yesterday: "We often lose the occasional tree here and the occasional tree there, but nobody has got away with such a large area of woodland before. Actually we have not got all that much left now."

The stolen trees formed the edge of Pear Wood, Stanmore, Middlesex, recently designated as ancient woodland by the Nature Conservancy Council. Most were mature beech

trees, with some sturdy oaks. In all the thieves cleared 1.5 hectares of woodland belonging to the council, and about the same area from land tenanted by Mr Joe Bygraves, of Wood Lane, Stanmore.

All that is left on an area of Pear Wood equivalent to some four and a half football pitches is brushwood trimmings and large numbers of uprooted tree stumps. The trunks have all disappeared, and inquiries at sawmills around London have so far failed to disclose any trace of them.

The thieves also scraped a foot of soil off a stretch of Grimmsditch, an earthwork protected by English Heritage as an ancient monument.

Mr Barrow says that a conservative estimate of the commercial value of the

timber that can be proved to have been removed is £2,300.

"We believe there may have been much more, but it is possible that the prime reason for the felling was to clear the land. The sale of the trunks might only have been a secondary consideration", he said.

Mr Bygraves, who returned from an absence in Portugal when he heard that his wood had gone, denies all knowledge of who the culprits might be, but Harrow council have demanded that he replace the trees on the land for which he is responsible.

Mr Barrow does not hold out much hope that Mr Bygraves will quickly comply. "Mr Bygraves is not on the phone, and we have to rely on him contacting us or our going out there personally. That can be rather worry-

ing because Mr Bygraves is not very friendly, and I understand that he is a former heavyweight boxing champion", Mr Barrow said yesterday.

The Forestry Commission, which says that a felling licence should have been obtained before Pear Wood was touched, has none the less volunteered grant aid to replant the land if a management plan can be agreed.

From the condition of the ground and the evidence of the sawn stumps, the council surmises that the trees were removed in February or March. It is thought the tree felling and removal would have taken at least a week. Council workmen visited the site at Christmas, and discovered the theft when they returned at the end of March to clear trees left in a dangerous condition by the October hurricane.

# Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator A second win and new home

The sole winner of the daily Portfolio competition prize of £4,000 plans to spend his windfall on moving to a new home in North Wales.

It was the second Portfolio success for Mr Allan Charlesworth, aged 62, of Cedar Way, Bollington, near Macclesfield, Cheshire. He won £1,600 in the competition 18 months ago.

Mr Charlesworth, a retired airline executive, said: "I have not really thought much about what to do with the money, but it will come in useful as my wife and I are moving house soon as we fancy a change."

# Pupil 'not victim of anti-racist policy'

By John Clare Education Correspondent

Ahmed Ullah, the Bangladeshi boy murdered 18 months ago in the playground of Burnage High School, Manchester, was not a victim of the school's anti-racist education policy, the inquiry panel appointed to investigate his death said yesterday.

However the four members of the panel, led by Mr Ian Macdonald, QC, condemned the "symbolic and doctrinaire anti-racism" practised at the school and said that if Burnage had been operating an effective anti-racist policy, the climate in which the death had occurred would have been eliminated.

But they repudiated the suggestion, made in the media after parts of their confidential report were leaked, that they had blamed the school's anti-racist policy for the death of Ahmed, aged 13.

They added: "We are clearly not suggesting that racism does not exist, or that it is some mythical invention of 'left-wing' councils, or that anti-racist policies and strategies have no place in schools."

The panel said it had not suggested all anti-racist policies should be abandoned or considered suspect because they had been applied in a senseless and counter-productive way in that particular school.

# £150,000 pay bill criticized

Conservative councillors criticized their Labour opponents yesterday for appointing a private enterprise computer expert for a year at £630 a day: a total of £150,000.

The dispute erupted after Mr Bernard Sykes, a consultant to Vickers, the shipbuilding and engineering company, was brought in to set up a new computer system at the headquarters of Nottingham County Council, which is Labour-controlled, at Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

# Murder hunt

A murder investigation has been launched after the discovery yesterday of the body of Mrs Joan Macan, aged 81, at her home in Ashbridge Park, near Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire. Mrs Macan, a widow, had apparently been attacked after disturbing burglars.

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## PARLIAMENT

## Alton abortion Bill runs out of time

Mr David Alton's Abortion (Amendment) Bill, which would have lowered the time limit for abortions, was effectively lost in the House of Commons because of lack of time.

After nearly five hours of sometimes noisy and often interrupted debate on the report stage of the Bill, a motion to end debate on the main amendment (the closure motion) was agreed by 310 to 229 — majority, 81.

The amendment to raise the time limit for abortions from the Bill's 18 weeks to 26 weeks was then defeated by 315 votes to 222 — majority, 93.

With the report stage incomplete when time ran out, the Bill now drops to the end of the list of private members' Bills awaiting completion of their report stages next Friday. It is unlikely that enough time will be available for its consideration.

There was clapping and hissing from the public gallery when Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, made it clear that the Government would not make time available for the Bill.

The opening of the debate was delayed for nearly 40 minutes by the presentation of petitions against the Bill, and then by points of order concerning the selection of amendments by the Speaker. Miss Clare Short (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab), was ordered to sit down when she said that the selection was deeply biased.

The Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, ended the delay when he said that the public would expect the Bill to be dealt with in a parliamentary way. Raising points of order was not the correct parliamentary way, and the debate should proceed.

Mr Frank Doran (Aberdeen South, Lab) then moved a new clause to allow women who had been refused an abortion to appeal to a tribunal.

After one-and-a-half-hour debate, the new clause was rejected by 306 votes to 170 — majority, 136.

Opposition spokesman on women, then moved the amendment allowing termination up to the twenty-sixth week of gestation.

She said that it had become clear that the Bill's sponsors took an absolutist, fundamentalist line.

They were opposed to all abortions, but were prepared to gamble with children's lives to try to maximize support for the Bill and to inflict a substantial blow on the 1967 Act, which had given women and doctors 20 years of safe, legal abortion.

She denied that doctors were abusing the 1967 Act in a wholesale manner. There were abuses of the Act by doctors, however, in terms of those who denied a woman an abortion when she was entitled to one.

She wanted to try to dispel any belief that the 26-week amendment represented any kind of compromise or concession.

"Any legal time limit is, in practice, taken to be a minimum of two weeks lower by doctors,

**There is a broad majority supporting the time limit coming down to 24 weeks. But what is on offer is something enormously different**

due to difficulties in estimating gestational age and fears of possible prosecution.

These fears had been grossly increased by the way in which the campaign had been waged. The British Pregnancy Advisory Service, to ensure that it did not break the law, would ban abortions on grounds of the 1967 Act at 15 weeks if the time limit remained at the beginning of the eighteenth week of pregnancy as provided in the Bill.

It would apply the same two weeks' leeway for each of the other suggested terms. The effect would be that 17,000 women — using 1986 figures — would be denied abortions that would previously have been carried out legally and safely.

The Bill was unacceptable, irrespective of time limits.

If there was a time limit it should be no less than 26 weeks, which was really 24 weeks. Anything else would be writing off the interests of existing

women and their existing children against the interest of the unborn fetus. That was the choice that was being made.

Whatever happened to this Bill, there would be further attacks on the 1967 Act from people who were anti-abortion. Those who favoured abortion must take the offensive and examine good practice elsewhere, such as self-referral in other European countries. Support for the Bill would mean a return to backstreet abortions.

Sir Bernard Braine (Leeds, Con) said that the Bill was concerned with the scandal of late abortions for social or financial reasons.

Operations under the social clause constituted 92 per cent of abortions carried out after 18 weeks. These were children who would have been perfectly healthy if they had been permitted to be born.

Under the 1967 Act, 2.6 million babies had been destroyed by 1986, most of whom would, if born, have perfectly normal children. Slaughter on such a scale continued. The Bill would deal with a very small proportion of such cases.

After 18 weeks the baby in the womb was perfectly formed, responded to light and sound and recognized its mother's voice. It was no different in any important respect from what it would be later, when it would be protected by law.

Amendment 2 (the 26-week period) was totally unacceptable to supporters of the Bill and so was the amendment calling for 24 weeks. Both ignored the fact that before these gestational dates a child could be born alive.

A survey in 1984 had shown that 72 per cent of babies born between 22 and 27 weeks had survived. In 1982 that percentage had been 43 per cent and in 1981 29 per cent. Legislation must reflect and not ignore advances in medical science.

Mr David Steel, joint leader of the SLD, said that there had been a number of detailed inquiries into the whole question of viability. The first recommended that abortion should not be carried out beyond the twenty-fourth week of pregnancy. That was five or six years ago.

In the light of the recommendation, the Government



Miss Jo Richardson (left) and Miss Claire Short, who fiercely opposed Mr David Alton's abortion Bill in the Commons

had made various administrative changes and in practice few abortions had since been carried out beyond the twenty-fourth week limit. Unfortunately, the law still stood as it was created in the Life Preservation Act, 1929.

"I believe that it is the will of the House by a clear majority that the law should reflect changes in medical practice that have taken place since then. If only we could get expression for it, there is probably a majority in the House in favour of the 24-week time limit."

They would be wise to accept an amendment to the 1967 Act creating a bar at 24 weeks of pregnancy. In any case, the medical profession as a whole always operated within a two-week time limit of safety. Therefore, a legal statement that abortion could not take place beyond the twenty-fourth week would ensure that in practice it would not happen after the twenty-second week.

In the view of the promoters,

there was no ethical difference between an abortion at 10 weeks or 17 weeks or 24 weeks. From their standpoint, those were all equally wrong. But those who did not share that view had the responsibility of determining what should be the criminal law.

The other amendments had no logical argument behind them at all. The 24-week option was supported by scientific opinion.

Mr Alton (Liverpool, Mossley Hill, SLD) said that the best possible option would be to vote for 20 weeks. That would save life. Twenty-four weeks was a no-change option.

He hoped that the House would cease to hide behind euphemisms such as embryos, conception and foetus. The word foetus meant "little one". Yet they did not recognize the little ones' right to life. That was what this Bill sought to do.

"I find it extraordinary that fetal brain material can be used to give another life. What does it say about the unborn child?"

What do we allow to happen to the unborn child? The most dangerous place for it is inside the womb.

Dilation or evacuation required the crushing of its skull, the breaking of its spine and its removal piece by piece. It was a barbaric, degrading and corrupting practice to allow.

Prostaglandins required the baby to be brought on in labour. That could go on for hours. It could be left writhing in agony. This time limit was set 59 years ago. Surely they should be reviewing it.

"No other country in the Western world allows abortion as late as we do. The average EEC time limit is 12 to 14 weeks. In Sweden, outside the EEC, it is 18 weeks. That is why this Bill is reasonable."

Mr Tony Newton, Minister for Health, said that Mr Alton was entitled to be judged on the proposal before the House. The amendments put into the Bill in committee had gone some way to seek to meet particular con-

cerns about disability and the birth of disabled children.

It was uncertain how doctors and others would interpret the Bill if enacted. But it was possible that examinations for foetal handicap could mean fewer abortions in practice carried out in that category.

"At the end of all the arguments, I have to accept that there is no single conclusive factual, technical or legal point which could make up the minds of the House as a whole or of any of us as individual members."

Mr Steel intervened to ask if information given by Mr Newton in written answers was correct. This stated that the time limit in France was 20 weeks, in Italy 23 weeks and in the Netherlands 24 weeks. The figures given by Mr Alton for different countries were for abortion on request.

Mr Newton confirmed that the information he had given was correct. Miss Short said that they

should stop playing political games and concentrate on what was being proposed.

There was a broad majority supporting the time limit coming down to 24 weeks. But what they had on offer was something enormously different from that.

In practice, there was a 24-week limit now. The DHSS recommendation was that there should be no abortion after 34 weeks, except in "hard cases". There had been only 29 abortions after 24 weeks in the past year for which figures were available. The House wanted such a limit.

She did not respect the sponsors for not having the guts to put that proposition before the House because they knew that it would not carry. "So they bring a duplicitous Bill. They pretend they are trying to prevent late abortions, but it is not true."

Those like her wanted to do everything possible to prevent late abortions. They were shocked at the grave wrong that in 20 per cent of abortions after 20 weeks, the women had returned themselves before 12 weeks.

Mr Harold Walker, Deputy Speaker, refused a closure motion from Sir Bernard Braine at this point, saying that there was still opinion wishing to be heard. Then, at 1.58pm, just over half an hour before all discussion on the Bill had to end, Mr Alton moved the closure, saying that if the House did not move to a vote in the next two minutes it would have the opportunity to vote on the amendments before it.

Mr Walker said that Mr Alton would have heard the ruling he had just given.

Mr Alton rose twice more, but Mr Walker told him that he must obey his ruling.

Miss Short resumed her speech and said: "The best way to vote for 24 weeks is to vote this Bill down."

Anti-abortionists were entitled to that right of conscience and "to live it in their lives, but they have no entitlement to impose that view on others who, in conscience, have a different view."

Mr Cyril Smith (Rochdale, SLD) then moved the closure motion, which was carried by 310 votes to 229 — majority for, 81.

## Recall of petrol cost witnesses

By Martin Fletcher  
Political Reporter

A Commons select committee investigating alleged petrol price fixing by leading oil companies is to recall witnesses because it believes there has been lying.

The Petrol Retailers Association and Mr Eric Dunkerley, a garage owner, have told the all-party trade and industry committee of widespread anti-competitive practices by the oil companies. The companies, led by Shell, have rebutted the claims.

The committee agreed yesterday that both the association and one of the companies, probably Shell, should be recalled.

According to some members, the committee has established that there is practically no effective price competition between the main companies. It is also summoning witnesses from Conoco, one of the smaller companies, to discover how it can afford to buy and sell petrol at a price significantly lower than its bigger rivals.

Inquiry into Hampstead Tube fire  
Driver 'swore at girl' who pulled cord

By Boris Johnson

London Underground last night launched an investigation into a fire at its deepest station after allegations that passengers were ignored and sworn at by staff as they tried to report it.

The investigation comes six months after the disaster at King's Cross in which 31 people died.

Passengers reported that they smelt smoke at Hampstead Tube station three hours before the alarm was raised at 5.15pm on Thursday, and the fire brigade was called.

But it was only at 6pm that the station was closed, hundreds of passengers moved out, and Northern Line services suspended for half an hour.

London Underground said that it was particularly concerned at reports that Miss Lyn Green, of Edgware, north-west London, who pulled the communication cord at Hampstead station, had been sworn at by a train driver.

A witness said that after Miss Green took her action

the train driver stormed out of his cab and asked: "Who was the f... who pulled the cord?"

Miss Green said: "I told him it was me, and he shouted, 'There was no reason to do that' and stormed off. But by this time smoke was visibly billowing out through the tunnel and into the station."

"After King's Cross I could not believe it. It seems incredible that a driver could swear at someone who pulled the communication cord while the train was in a station and there was thick smoke around."

A London Underground spokesman said that local managers were following up allegations of swearing with the member of staff concerned.

Mr Danny Bowers, a radio journalist, got on a train at Edgware Road at 5.30 pm. "The train chugged off and then got lodged in the tunnel. After two minutes a thick haze started to come through the open windows, and a strong smell of smoke."

"Passengers started to chat-

ter loudly and there was a rising feeling of panic. At last the train crawled into Hampstead station and there was a rush for the doors. But the station was full of smoke and there were five members of staff who told us to get back inside."

The Underground official said that the smoke was caused by a small fire about 300 yards into the tunnel between Hampstead and Belsize Park.

● The King's Cross disaster inquiry in London was told yesterday that Tube passengers could be enlisted to help to evacuate short-staffed stations during fires.

The idea — under which passengers might be asked to stand by station entrances to keep people out — was being considered for inclusion in training courses about evacuation. Mr Trevor Rycroft, Underground training school manager, said:

He agreed with Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, chairman of the inquiry, that he had been "thrown into the deep end" of improving training in

the wake of the King's Cross fire without the necessary support from Underground management.

Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, said that many of those who died at King's Cross had just entered the ticket hall from outside without being stopped.

He asked what was being done to train staff to block off entrances while not preventing passengers escaping.

Mr Rycroft, who said he had no professional training qualifications, replied: "With staff levels that we have got, the point you are making is obviously that we haven't got enough staff to do it ourselves."

"They can get police or others to help. It may even be in some circumstances they would ask passengers to help them."

The hearing continues. ● Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, confirmed yesterday that his department will not pay the Association of London Authorities' legal bill for attending the King's Cross disaster inquiry.

## Ode to Joy fetches £93,500

SALEROOM  
by Sarah Jane Checkland  
Art Market  
Correspondent

A newly-discovered manuscript in Beethoven's hand, and containing a substantial part of the "Ode to Joy" from the end of his Ninth Symphony, sold for £93,500 at Sotheby's yesterday.

The three-page manuscript is written in the composer's haphazard style, with alterations appearing to be jotted down at random. It has the bonus of mysterious mathematical calculations on the last page which are almost certainly in Beethoven's hand. No-one knows to what they relate. The manuscript was sent for sale by an overseas collector, and bought within estimate by an anonymous British private buyer. The complete autograph manuscript of the Ninth Symphony is in the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek in East Berlin.

It was Schubert who in the event topped the bill, when

the only known surviving autograph manuscript of his Overture in D Major "in the Italian style", a particularly popular work, fetched £132,000, again within estimate. It was bought by an unnamed institution which also spent £33,000 (estimate £30,000 to £50,000) on an autograph manuscript of the finale for the "Fantasie" for piano duet, Schubert's first known composition, completed when he was 13. The two-day manuscript sale totalled £732,589, with 22 per cent sold.

Sotheby's also completed a successful two-day sale in Israel yesterday, totalling £573,323 with 15 per cent unsold.

"The political situation doesn't seem to have dampened prices", Rivka Saker of Sotheby's said.

Top price, in the Judaica section, was £48,980 (within estimate) for an 18th century silver filigree and enamel spice tower, which was bought by an American dealer. Paintings by the Russian-Israeli artist Zvi Ribak were popular, a dark portrait of a bearded sage entitled The Orator, selling for £43,732 to an English private collector.

The marriage contract of the eighteenth-century Italian Hebrew poet Moshe Chaim Luzzatto achieved a world record for a marriage contract, when it fetched £25,086.

● Marilyn Monroe's dress from the film Some Like it Hot sold for £19,800 at Christie's South Kensington on Thursday, not Sotheby's, as printed in yesterday's paper.

## In today's New Scientist we'll show you why anti-perspirant is anti-social.



When you next spray on some 'Rugged Hunk' or 'Subtle Seduction', think about it for a moment.

Could the anti-perspirant in your hand be destroying the ozone layer over your head? The ozone layer that acts as a 'defence field' against the harmful effects of ultra-violet radiation?

If it is, then your desire to be fragrant is a potential time-bomb that, in the future, could make the world a dangerous place to live in.

Already, the chemicals used in some anti-perspirants — along with a host of other aerosol products — are thought to be the cause of the growing hole in the ozone layer above the Antarctic. The hole that, last October, was as big as the United States and as deep as Mount Everest is high.

If that startling fact worries you, browse through 'Inside Science'. The special supplement published this week with New Scientist.

It will deepen your understanding of the threat to the ozone layer, the reasons why it took the eighties to light the fuse — and what it will take to put it out.

Pick up a copy of New Scientist today, and discover the facts for yourself. While there's still time.

**newscientist**  
It makes sense

## Vigilante warning from Hurd

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs  
Correspondent

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, gave a warning yesterday against the cult of the vigilante.

He told Lewes Conservative Political Centre: "A system of criminal justice which loses public confidence risks substituting the rule of the vigilante for that of the law."

"The warning signs are already there on the other side of the Atlantic, in the way New Yorkers have fêted Bernard Goetz for shooting four youths who, he thought, were about to attack him, or in the cult-following which was accorded to the series of *Death Wish* films."

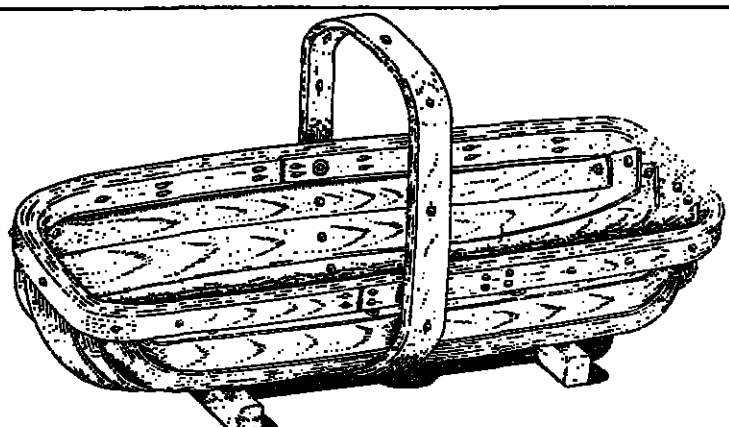
"We must guard against any such trend here. The vigilante is not the guardian of the law, but the harbinger of anarchy and barbarism."

He said law-abiding men and women looked to the courts to make sure that wrong-doers were properly punished, while the chance should also be taken for rehabilitation and deterrence.

Mr Hurd said that custody, while needed for the most serious offenders, was not sensible for most crimes. But any new penalty must include a punitive element.

Mr Hurd said he had not ruled out electronic "tagging", in spite of criticism.

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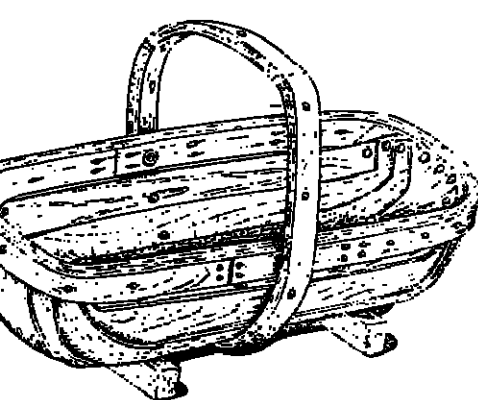
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# Chirac final gamble frees bomber

From Philip Jacobson in Paris and Richard Long in Wellington

The last card in M Jacques Chirac's electoral deck was played yesterday when the French secret service agent convicted for her part in the Rainbow Warrior affair flew back to Paris.

The arrival of Captain Dominique Prieur from "exile" on a Pacific atoll coincided with the official closure of the long and increasingly abrasive presidential election campaign.

With barely 24 hours to go before the country decides between the Prime Minister and the incumbent President, the decision to bring Prieur home on the grounds that she is pregnant reeks of political opportunism.

But it could still pay off for M Chirac, concluding an extraordinary three days of coups de théâtre that began with the liberation of the last French hostages in Beirut, then moved to the successful assault on Kanak militants holding 23 prisoners in New Caledonia.

Behind yesterday's smoke-screen of semi-official declarations about France's right, under the UN-sponsored deal with New Zealand, to repatriate Prieur from the atoll if she became pregnant, lies the reality that M Chirac has nothing to lose by this final gamble.

Relations with the Labour Government of Mr David Lange in New Zealand have been deteriorating steadily since her co-conspirator, Major Alain Mafart, was whisked back to Paris last November on the verge of medical grounds.

On both occasions, M Chirac has chosen to intervene forcefully to lay down the official line that the evacuations were fully justified. During a final campaign swing through central France yesterday, he insisted that the conditions of Prieur's return "conformed to the accords".

M Chirac added that immediately the pregnancy had been confirmed — her husband has also been on the ground — he gave the order to bring her home.

At his most pugnacious, M Chirac observed: "I would never have raised this matter if David Lange himself had not made public the news." He could not resist a final jab at the New Zealanders with words of high praise for both the convicted French agents.

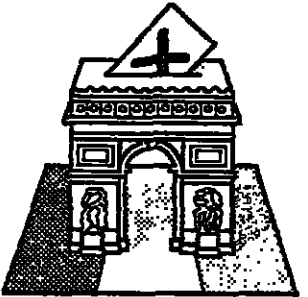
The New Zealand Government is withholding a formal

protest over the repatriation until after tomorrow's second-round vote, as Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister, does not wish to add further to M Chirac's presidential prospects. Wellington was not consulted about the move to return Prieur to France, and Mr Lange described this as a breach of international law.

He said that he was told of the planned action at 9.40am local time on Friday after the New Zealand Embassy in Paris had been informed by the French Foreign Ministry.

He said that the Government did not consent to the move, "and should she leave it would be a clear breach of France's obligations under international law".

As M Chirac well knows, the authorities in Wellington are still extremely touchy about the Mafart affair. The Chirac Government's obvious unwillingness to send the agent back to Hao, despite his apparently complete recovery — some reports claim he is playing a mean game of tennis these days — rubbed more salt into the still unhealed wounds left by the sinking of Rainbow



Warrior. Under a ruling in July, 1986, by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary General, the two French agents were to remain in exile on Hao atoll for three years. The mutual agreement of the two governments was required for any departure from the terms of the ruling.

The two agents, members of the French Secret Service, the DGSE, were earlier sentenced to 10 years' jail for their part in the July 1985 bombing of the Greenpeace protest ship in Auckland Harbour and the death of a crew member.

Their imprisonment damaged New Zealand's relations with France, however, and led to trade repercussions. Señor Pérez de Cuellar's ruling enabled their release into French custody and removed the threat of trade sanctions by France.

But while that temporarily eased feelings, the repatriation

of Mafart to Paris last December embarrassed the Lange Government.

Mr Lange said yesterday that Señor Pérez de Cuellar had been informed of Prieur's repatriation. The Prime Minister is expected to seek a ruling from the Secretary General on the legitimacy of the action.

Mr Jim Bolger, the New Zealand opposition leader, said the repatriation was clearly aimed at assisting M Chirac's prospects in the presidential race.

A Greenpeace spokesman said the incident showed that the French could not be trusted in the South Pacific — and that their word could not be trusted when they claimed it was safe to continue nuclear testing at Mururoa atoll.

The tensions between Paris and Wellington have been greatly exacerbated by recent events in New Caledonia. New Zealand is only one of several South Pacific nations, Australia among them, to have criticized the refusal of M Chirac's Government to consider a compromise with the Kanak separatists in New Caledonia.

The French reaction has been fierce with allegations that "outsiders" are once again deliberately stirring up trouble in the territory. After some uncompromising remarks by Mr Lange about the French presence, the New Zealand Ambassador in Paris was last week summoned for a stiff rebuke at the Quai d'Orsay.

Because the publication of opinion polls has been prohibited all week, it is impossible to know whether this headline-making flurry of action is helping M Chirac to close the large gap President Mitterrand opened up in the first round of voting. Most pundits agree that this week's "three-card trick" should have considerable appeal for the more right-wing electorate which had swung so strongly behind M Jean-Marie Le Pen, the National Front leader.

It is not impossible, however, that the blatantly political stage management of events of such significance could backfire on the Chirac camp. A great many of the ordinary French are deeply cynical about politicians, and care more about how they are governed than sometimes seems apparent.

For them, M Chirac's spectacular wind-up may be



A gendarme surveying Kanak weapons yesterday after the battle which freed 23 hostages on the New Caledonian island of Ouvéa. Two French Secret Service men and 19 rebels died.

just a bit too strong, tending to confirm the widely held belief that something deep in the Prime Minister's character disqualifies him from the country's highest office.

M Mitterrand's acutely developed political intuition has so far prevented him from making similar points in the closing stage of the campaign. Sitting tight on that reassuring lead, he evidently feels there is nothing to gain, and conceivably much to lose in neutral eyes, in slugging it out with the likes of M Charles Pasqua, whom unkind observers

describe as "the Chirac puppet master". The combative Interior Minister's famous understanding of what the Frenchman and woman in the street are supposed to feel him to observe, in the wake of the bloody episode in New Caledonia, that "you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs".

It remains to be seen whether his distinctive approach to capturing the Élysée suits the electorate's appetite. ● OTTAWA: A senior Canadian Cabinet Minister yesterday accused France of a "deliberate provocation" in arresting a Canadian fishing trawler with five men on board near the French islands of St Pierre and Miquelon (John Best writes).

As Canada officially protested against the action, Mr John Crosbie, the Minister for International Trade and Newfoundland province's representative in the Federal Cabinet, denounced what he called an "extremely deplorable action" taken by the French "without any warning at all".

During Thursday's assault on the cave where the hostages had been held for 13 days, at least 15 were taken prisoner. Yesterday more were captured or surrendered and were

referred to Nouméa for interrogation. The last three bodies of Kanak rebels were recovered outside the cave, where two French Secret Service men were also killed.

The French have allowed journalists to visit Ouvéa, and the cave. The entrance was barely visible through the thick vegetation. Outside was the spot where the Kanaks had set up a sentry post at the edge of a large crater. Several hundred yards down, inside the crater, was the dark, damp cave, hardly 30 ft in diameter. The Kanaks had kept the hostages chained together, two by two, lying face-down for most of the time.

The cave was still littered with clothing and scraps of food. French paratroopers displayed the Kanak's weapons, ranging from vintage rifles to the sophisticated machine guns and the grenades and ammunition which they had taken from some of the hostages, members of the anti-terrorist squad, GIGN.

They also showed off handcuffs unlocked by a key smuggled into the cave by the hero of the rescue operation, Captain Philippe Legorjus, the 36-year-old commander of GIGN, who was taken prisoner and then allowed by his captors to act as a mediator.

Captain Legorjus smuggled two revolvers into the cave which were used to fight off Kanak rebels trying to carry out their threat to massacre the hostages when the rescue mission began.

In France the liberation of the 23 hostages is a victory of sorts for M Chirac, but in New Caledonia the brutality of the operation has sickened the Kanak community and will hardly undermine the determination to continue the armed struggle for independence.

In its communiqué the Front referred to the day of shame for the French people responsible. "Neither the dead nor the tears nor the sufferings and humiliations will shake the determination of the Kanak people to carry on the struggle..."

In Sydney and Melbourne, demonstrators took to the streets to protest about the violent end to the hostage drama and to seek a stronger stand by the Australian Government.

## French defend tough action against Kanaks

By Christopher Morris

In the face of condemnation for the bloodshed in which French troops shot dead 19 Kanak rebels to rescue 23 gendarmes being held hostage in New Caledonia, military chiefs and government officials last night strongly defended their action.

They denied it was an election stunt by the French Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, to boost his flagging prospects of winning Sunday's presidential election.

At the same time native Melanesians in the troubled Pacific territory mourned the deaths of the Kanaks on the remote coral atoll of Ouvéa. They now see them as martyrs and have vowed revenge.

In the capital, Nouméa, M Bernard Pons, the Minister for Overseas Territories, who oversaw the rescue operation, vowed to "neutralize" any fresh terrorist outbreaks. "The French Government is prepared for dialogue with the Kanaks," he said, stressing the limitations of such talks.

At the Kanak Socialist Liberation Front headquarters the mood was one of sadness and fury. M Pons was described as "a gravedigger" and militants warned that "the ghost of Ouvéa will haunt him". The Front's president, M Jean-Marie Tjibaou, blamed the French Government for what he called "the execution of the Kanaks". "The solution... is political not military."

In Australia, the Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, described the killings as disastrous. "The best we can say now is that we hope that this violence will be put behind by the (Front) and that the French authorities will act with understanding and compassion and get down to the processes of dialogue."

Mr Parris Winget, the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, was more outspoken, claiming that the French had turned the "once peaceful Pacific neighbourhood into a bloodbath".

Hundreds of French troops were being withdrawn from Ouvéa as the last of the Kanak rebels were rounded up.

During Thursday's assault on the cave where the hostages had been held for 13 days, at least 15 were taken prisoner. Yesterday more were captured or surrendered and were

referred to Nouméa for interrogation. The last three bodies of Kanak rebels were recovered outside the cave, where two French Secret Service men were also killed.

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### WORLD ROUNDUP

## At least 12 killed in Beirut battles

West Beirut — Two unrelated machine gun and rocket battles shook the western sector of Beirut yesterday as Palestinians and Shia Muslims fought among themselves in the slums (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes). Initial reports said that eight people were killed and dozens wounded in fierce fighting between Palestinian guerrillas at the devastated Chatilla refugee camp.

Less than two miles away, in Beirut's southern suburbs, Amal militia and pro-Iranian Hezbollah were locked in a confrontation in which at least four people have died. The Syrian Army, which has allies in both conflicts, did not intervene militarily but was trying to arrange ceasefires.

## Welcome for rebels

Harare — Zimbabwe's pro-government news media yesterday fêted the first seven men said to have taken advantage of President Mugabe's offer of amnesty to "dissidents" who took to the Matabeleland bush after the breakdown of his post-independence "Government of national unity" (Michael Hartnack writes). "There was no reason for us to continue our activities when our leaders were shaking hands," said one of the seven. Under President Mugabe's April 19 amnesty, which clinched the unity pact he signed with Mr Nkomo on December 22, 992 prisoners have also been freed from Zimbabwe's jails. But the pardon rules out any prospect of mercy for rebels who accepted help from South Africa's front organization, "Super Zupu".

## Referendum date

Canberra (Reuters) — Australians are to be asked to decide on constitutional changes aimed at more stable government and greater constitutional rights, it was announced yesterday. A referendum will be held in September.

Proposed changes include the introduction of four-year maximum terms for both houses of Parliament, provision of fair and democratic elections throughout Australia, recognition of local government, and extensions of the right to trial by jury, the right to freedom of religion and fair compensation for property acquired by government.

## New leader likely

A confident performance by Mr Karoly Grosz, the Prime Minister of Hungary, during his visit to Britain this week has strengthened speculation that he will be selected later this month to become the eventual successor to Mr Janos Kadar, who has led Hungary for 32 years (Andrew McEwen writes). Mr Kadar, aged 75, has said he is willing to retire as General Secretary. Mr Grosz, aged 57, said a recommendation on the succession was likely to emerge from a meeting of the Central Committee on May 10 and that a decision could be taken at the party conference beginning on May 20.

## Lady Bing's 'attack'

New York — Lady Carroll Bing punched and kicked her husband, Sir Rudolf, the former director of the Metropolitan Opera, in a fashionable New York restaurant because he wanted to dine with another woman, according to a witness at a trial to consider the annulment of their 1987 marriage (Our Own Correspondent writes).

Lawyers for Sir Rudolf are trying to dissolve the marriage on the grounds that the 81-year-old impresario, who suffers from senility, was manipulated into the union with Lady Bing, aged 48.

## Asylum rule changed

Vienna — Austria is to tighten its regulations for granting asylum to political refugees from the East (A Correspondent writes). Observers say the move by the Interior Ministry, which takes effect on Monday, will particularly hit hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Poles who are expected to flee rising violence in their homeland. The new measures will reduce the time allowed for an asylum applicant's legal status to be determined from about three weeks to only three days.

## Mitterrand profits from demystifying of politics

By Byron Cridde

M François Mitterrand is set to win an historic victory tomorrow, the first directly elected French president to be given a second term, and a Socialist to boot. He is profiting from the demystifying of politics, some would say, by his post-independence "Government of national unity" (Michael Hartnack writes). "There was no reason for us to continue our activities when our leaders were shaking hands," said one of the seven. Under President Mugabe's April 19 amnesty, which clinched the unity pact he signed with Mr Nkomo on December 22, 992 prisoners have also been freed from Zimbabwe's jails. But the pardon rules out any prospect of mercy for rebels who accepted help from South Africa's front organization, "Super Zupu".

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experience and radicalism. The Government was social democratic, not socialist, and by 1986 a conventionally-managed economy was in better shape than in 1981. Mitterrand's subsequent incarnation as a dignified "presiding" president from 1986 to 1988 completed the process of deradicalizing the left's image. Mitterrand is no socialist, nor do the voters see him as such.

Just as moribund is the charge of constitutional instability. M Chirac claims that a Mitterrand victory will mean a return to the weak and shifting coalitions of the Fourth Republic. But in office from 1981 to 1988, Mitterrand has proved a faithful caretaker of de Gaulle's constitution, first by endorsing the *de facto* executive presidency, and then, since 1986, applying the *de jure* model of prime ministerial leadership. M Mitterrand is seen as the guarantor of stability.

The future prospect of him governing with a majority drawn

from the existing Assembly — of Socialists and part of the centre-right — is uncertain. But it is not unimaginable that a now-centrist Socialist Party, led by a consummate fixer, is capable of finding sufficient allies in the non-Socialist centre from the ruins of a beaten and divided right. To speak of "the end of the Fifth Republic" is melodramatic. The regime is one of variable geometry. In reality, the war of the French republics is over.

The French right has become more divided as it has lost its capacity to win elections without recourse to the Marxist and constitutional scarecrows. It is beset by clan and personal rivalries, and has suffered for 14 years from the overweening ambition of M Chirac.

Mr Jean-Marie Le Pen, the National Front leader, is the flip side of the consensus, mobilizing the marginalized poor whites with a populist formula. In an election drained of ideology, and where the Com-

munists' collapse creates a vacancy for a protest party, he fills a vacuum, but as a death rattle of the old politics rather than a harbinger of the new. Like Poujadism, the reactionary movement, founded in the 1950s to protect the business interests of small traders, which reflected the decline of the petty bourgeoisie — M Le Pen, at one time a Poujadiste deputy, represents a chauvinistic spasm against blacks and Arabs in the streets and the threat of economic supranationalism of the single European market in 1992.

The division of the right made M Mitterrand president in 1981 and, because the splits are now worse, should do so again tomorrow. One in five of M Le Pen's voters, and one in eight of M Raymond Barre's, are expected to vote for M Mitterrand and many more will refuse to vote for M Chirac. But M Mitterrand is doing more than winning by default. The two most significant develop-

ments in French electoral politics during the 1980s have been the demise of the Communists and the rebirth of the extreme right — and the hand of M Mitterrand can be seen in both.

It was he who took his party into alliance with the Communists, the better to skin them; and it was he who introduced proportional representation in 1986 to bring the National Front into the Assembly as a wrecking force on the right. In exchange for the left's traditional extremist allies, the Communist Party, M Mitterrand has deftly hung the National Front round M Chirac's neck. M Le Pen's less-than-unequivocal support for M Chirac underlines his perception of how much the National Front has to gain from the re-election of M Mitterrand.

Byron Cridde is co-author of *The French Socialist Party: The Emergence of a Party of Government*, published by Oxford University Press.

## Running the gauntlet to feed Gdansk strike

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

Marek, a wiry young student, stuffed two pounds of onions into his small red rucksack. Along with 30 other young Gdansk students, he is part of the complicated smuggling operation which has prevented the beleaguered Lenin shipyard strikers from starving since police sealed off the yard's gates three days ago.

Making his trips up to 20 times a day, Marek, aged 20, is a vital source of comfort for the strikers left in the shipyard.

It is an operation fraught with risk for the youngsters. Many of them are members of the Freedom and Peace Movement which protests against the Polish military oath pledging allegiance to the Soviet Union. Most have been seen inside of a police cell, but those caught in the last few days running food to the strikers have been dealt with more harshly by riot police, often being beaten.

But as the police tighten their net around the shipyard, the smugglers' courage remains undaunted.

Yesterday, the Solidarity radio monitoring militia signals overheard a police commander telling his men to search everyone for food when they entered the area.

"Coastal anything more than a slice of bread," the commander ordered.

From the dark red-brick presbytery of St Brigitte's church where the food is collected, it is only a 15-minute stroll to the shipyard gates, but just across the road from the church the first police cordon must be avoided. Turning down a side street, Marek went into a high Victorian building, passing across a courtyard to where another block of flats offered an uninviting dark hole in the basement. A dimly lit passage led underneath a small playground, emerging in another old house. Leaving this, it was possible to cross the narrow road 50 yards behind the first militia lines.

A score of policemen checking identity passes and searching the bags of people trying to come down the road were too occupied to see what was happening behind them.

"That's the simple part," Marek smiled, leading the way through a narrow path between two official buildings, one the security headquarters of the shipyard complex.

The next step was to cross a main road, now deserted of all but police vehicles, and to creep between two giant green gasometers into the deserted gasworks adjoining the Lenin shipyard, where a patrol car prevented progress for 10 minutes before it drove off to check other entrances.

Once inside the gasworks, a network of narrow iron foot-bridges led across a canal. Beyond this, some empty oil

drums enabled us to negotiate a 12 ft wall where a deserted lane led to another higher wall, which was the barrier between the gasworks and the besieged shipyard.

In recent days the strikers had allowed the precious rucksacks to be passed over this barrier. Eggs, onions and bread went in, messages, letters, and the latest bulletins from Solidarity leaders were passed out.

Yesterday, however, no smiling heads appeared over the wall to welcome us.

Marek wondered whether the "civilian defence" groups which were operating as a fifth column inside the shipyard had already sealed off this route from the strikers.

After a 10-minute wait, there was still no sign of life on the other side of the wall, although in the distance, it was possible to hear the resolute cheers of Solidarity, a deafening answer to ultimatum broadcast repeatedly by the management for the strikers to leave the shipyard.

Rather than linger, Marek reluctantly lobbed his rucksack over the wall.

As we left we noted two blue militia vans drive up and discharge a score of riot police who promptly took up positions along the metal bridges we had passed over 10 minutes earlier. Another strand of the Lenin shipyard's lifeline had been cut.

## The march of science rattles church hoard of fake bones

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Nobody likes a fake. The testing of the Turin Shroud — about to begin in Oxford, Zurich and Arizona — may well upset an ecclesiastical apparatus by proving that the revered cloth is nothing more than an intriguing specimen from the Middle Ages.

Science and archaeological expertise are creeping up quickly on the treasured props of religion. The Vatican professes itself unflinched. "We always welcome honesty and clarity in these matters," says a church spokesman. But talk to the priest in any of a dozen Roman parishes and the response to scientific testing of their relics ranges from the nervous to the brusque.

Put simply, some of the countless bones, above all heads, hands and skulls of saints currently gracing churches in Italy and Europe, are fake. The new archaeologists, supported by radiological and chemical tests, could prove it if given a chance.

Anatomical logic is on their side. Can St Andrew really have had 17 arms, or St Stephen 13? If the claims of the various Italian churches are to be believed, John the Baptist must have had about 50 fingers and the unfortunate St Agatha five breasts.

The relics have never really been verified; the only security is the seal of former curators or sacristans. But all too often these seals were forged in the 19th Century,

especially after the fall of Rome. Many monasteries and convents were secularized, relics were sold off at auction and bought by enterprising dealers who then sold at a profit to foreign museums.

The Vatican started to buy back relics but ended up with more than they lost. There were no real certainties — the legs of one saint could quite easily have been confused with the legs of another.

It was particularly embarrassing when in 1953 the late archaeologist, Professor Margherita Guarducci, stumbled on what seemed, with some probability, to be the bones of St Peter. Anatomical testing showed the skeleton of an old man, height of about 5 ft 3 in. Soil samples confirmed that the body came from a First Century tomb. Chemical analysis on the cloth showed fragments of gold and deep purple dye — the mark of a high church dignitary. Pope Paul VI announced with some pride that St Peter's bones had been discovered.

The problem was this: for several centuries St John Lateran Church in Rome had claimed to have the skull of St Peter in a silver container.

If the Turin Shroud tests become the norm there will be a confusing time ahead for the Church. There are those in the Vatican who favour a gradual progression towards two-legged and two-armed saints, but the emphasis is on "grad-

ual". The shrewd view is to wait and see if anybody discredits the process of carbon dating (which admits to only a small margin of error) or the chemical tests such as potassium argon before debanking the saints.

Over the years churches have whittled down their claims to holy relics (St Giulia is now down to less than 40 heads) but a day's stroll around Rome still reveals an anatomical hoard.



# Slings and arrows of Israel under fire for expelling moderate joblessness make Bilbao a battlefield

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Unemployed Spanish shipyard workers fighting a daily battle with police in Bilbao have developed home-made arms in their escalating conflict.

At exactly 12.15 yesterday afternoon, amid the roar of exploding petrol bombs and a colourful but menacing shower of fireworks, a voice from a loudspeaker announced the daily ceasefire in one of the strangest urban battles that Bilbao, or any other city, has seen.

The scene was the Euzkadi shipyard and an adjoining bridge over the Nervion river in the heart of the Basque city. The combatants were several hundred policemen equipped with riot gear, facing several hundred angry, unemployed shipyard workers.

Heimeted police, carrying shields, take up positions daily at either end of the bridge, undisturbed by injuries and damage to police vans. The head of the police detachment uses a loud-speaker to address those taking part in the disturbances, and the would-be workers crouch behind barricades inside the shipyard compound. The demonstrators also have a loud-speaker, but the daily duel is not merely one of words.

The latest weapon is a portable, readily dismountable, rocket launcher consisting of three long pieces of pipe

attached to a Y-frame. It is designed to fire a barrage of ordinary firework rockets.

Police do battle with smoke grenades and rubber bullets. To counter the grenades the shipyard-crews move big industrial fans into place behind the barricades, to blow the irritating smoke back at their enemy. Huge mirrors, mounted on the roof of one of the shipyard buildings, are turned to deflect the sun's rays into the eyes of police. Behind the barricades are buckets of water in which to douse the incoming smoke bombs.

Rubber bullets slam into the barricades, as men and some boys, armed with strong slingshots, fire bolts and ballbearings at the police. Non-combatants have to cross the bridge at their own risk. The bolts make a cracking sound when they hit a policeman's plastic shield, and they clunk when they hit the side of a van or the heavy wire mesh which protects the windows of police vehicles.

The latest series of clashes began on a daily basis in mid-March. Four years ago there had been violent clashes when it was definitely learnt that the Euzkadi yards would end operations. There were more clashes last December and in January 25 people were injured. Last month a young girl lost an eye. Some claim it was the result of a bolt fired by a

slingshot; others say it was a rubber bullet.

The protesters want the authorities to restart shipyard operations. They claim they were promised new jobs within three years of their lay-off and the three years are up. They have collected unemployment compensation, under a scheme designed for them, since they first lost their jobs.

Police have been careful so far to avoid entering the shipyard in the heat of the fray.

At about midday every day, after four or five hours of battle, a voice from the protesters' loud-speaker tells them to cease fire. The demonstrators disassemble their arms, roll the barricades further inside the yards, and call it a day.

An Interior Ministry spokesman in Bilbao claimed that the Madrid-controlled police were restricted by the home rule powers of the Basque Government.

He said any attempt to solve the problem by negotiation would probably require the co-operation of the state-run National Institute for Industry, Cartel and the Basque Government.

The demonstrators can come and go because their idle plant has never been formally shut; technically, they are still employed.

From Ian Murray  
Jerusalem

Israel yesterday issued an expulsion order against Mr Mubarak Awad, a Jerusalem-born American citizen who is founder and leader of a Palestinian civil disobedience movement which advocates non-violent opposition to Israeli occupation.

At the same time police released on bail an Israeli West Bank settler who is charged with killing an Arab shepherd on Thursday.

The United States, which brought strong diplomatic pressure to bear on Israel last November when it refused to extend Mr Awad's tourist visa, said yesterday that it viewed the expulsion order very gravely and that it would take up the matter at the highest level.

Mr Awad became an American citizen after immigrating over 20 years ago, but he returned to Jerusalem in 1983, when he was refused a resident's permit.

A three-day stay of execution in the expulsion order, pending a High Court appeal, was granted. However, this expires tomorrow evening and as the Sabbath intervenes the time for the appeal is limited to just one day, leaving Mr Awad's lawyers little time to present their case.

The settler released on bail was found by a preliminary inquiry to have fired in self-defence. Witnesses have told police that a woman living at the settlement of Shilo was worried when she saw shepherds grazing the flocks near to her home than was usual. Fearing an attack, she called for help, and settlers armed with guns arrived. Stones were thrown at them



A Jewish settler helping a young boy to carry an Israeli flag during a march through the occupied West Bank. Hundreds of settlers passed close to the village of Beitza, where an Israeli girl and two Palestinians were killed in a clash a month ago.

and the settlers fired back and Jodeh Awad (no relation) was killed.

The deportation order was signed by the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, in his capacity as acting Interior Minister. It was issued just three days before the expiry of a High Court order requiring the Interior Ministry to explain why it had not expelled Mr Awad when his visa expired on November 22 last

year. A long statement from the Prime Minister's Office claimed Mr Awad "is one of the main contributors to the violent disturbances in Judea, Samaria and Gaza. He was involved in the preparation of bulletins by means of which the population was called to rise against Israel and its presence in those areas. All bulletins included calls to violent activities against Israel and moderate Palestinians."

The statement quoted from the latest leaflet distributed by the underground leadership of the "unrest," which urged Palestinians "to strike painful blows at the fascist entity" by refusing to open stores or to pay taxes and by boycotting Israeli goods. These civil disobedience actions are among those which have been advocated by Mr Awad since he set up a "centre for the study of non-violence" in Jerusalem

in 1985. According to the ministry statement "the activities of Mubarak Awad not only exceeded the limits of a non-violent struggle, which he claims to believe in, but they also created tension and severe violence that every day affected security and public order."

## The sayings of Miss Botha causing a stir

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

President Botha of South Africa is in danger of being upstaged by his daughter, Rozanne, who is once again in the news after stirring her incoherent, simplistic and embarrassingly honest views on matters ranging from Communism and revolution to black aspirations and feminism.

Unmarried and in her late twenties, Miss Botha is an attractive brunette who writes a column for an Afrikaans newspaper, plays the guitar, sings prettily and has hopes of becoming a professional entertainer. Her first LP is due to be released shortly.

The latest sayings of the President's irrepressible daughter are contained in an interview in the current issue of *Ascent*, a newspaper published twice a year by students of the arts faculty at the University of Cape Town.

Among her more choice observations are that "women are just sentimental buggers", "feminists have an inferiority complex" and "Coloureds (people of mixed race) have an identity crisis" and should "learn from Afrikaners to look after their poor people".

She does not live in an ivory tower and her life has not been all privilege. Miss Botha tells her readers, disclosing that after leaving school she opted to do a year's army training, six months of which was spent in her home town of George on the southern Cape coast and six months in Cape Town.

"It's not as if I don't know about suffering. I slept on the floor in the Army and had cold showers for months."

The blacks just want our houses and swimming pools, but I can't blame them," Miss Botha proclaims.

She is in favour of compulsory conscription for white males - "they go to the Army a boy and come back a man".

Miss Botha commented on some key political issues facing her country: "I hate all radical groups, left and right. I believe in moderation, a fast, moderate approach."

"Revolution? Who knows? Man cannot change it, the Lord will come and save us."

from what we're in ... The communist threat is not a joke. It's real. Russia is in Angola."

Miss Botha says that when she hears *Die Stem* (The Voice), South Africa's official national anthem, "I get goose bumps on my arm ... It's our history". She adds that she thinks "blacks need to respect the good things of *Die Stem*".

Politically conscious blacks in South Africa span *Die Stem*, which pays tribute to the heroism of white pioneers ("From our plains where creaking wagons cut their trails into the earth/Calls the spirit of our Country, of the land that gave us birth") but makes no reference to the country's black inhabitants.

Miss Botha has complained that the *Ascent* interview was "drawn out of proportion - they added their own interpretations to it". But she has not challenged the accuracy of any of the quotations.

The editor of *Ascent*, Mr Richard Bartlett, says the article was shown to Miss Botha before publication. "She conceded she had not been misquoted, but said she did not like it and did not want it published. She said she would 'make trouble' if we went ahead, but so far nothing has happened," he said.

Last December Miss Botha expressed similar views in a television documentary entitled "Children of Apartheid", broadcast by the CBS network in America. The television crew was given unprecedented access to the presidential residence in Cape Town and allowed to film Miss Botha hosting a party.

There was fury in Pretoria when the documentary appeared because the interview with Miss Botha was juxtaposed with another with Miss Zinzi Mandela, daughter of Nelson Mandela, the jailed leader of the African National Congress.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, accused CBS of "blatant distortion" and "exaggeration of negative aspects". He threatened to take action against the company's representatives but nothing has happened.

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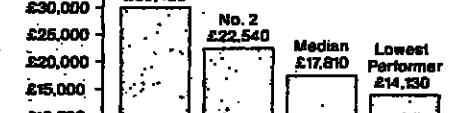
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## Warship protest

Copenhagen (Reuters) - Greenpeace fixed an anti-nuclear flag to a Soviet warship just outside the Baltic Sea yesterday in protest against atomic weapons carried at sea, a Greenpeace spokesman said. Two inflatable dinghies from the Greenpeace ship Moby Dick approached the frigate Siny. One dinghy capsized, but there were no injuries.

### Strikers freed

Abidjan, Ivory Coast (AP) - Police released 14 trade union leaders detained in the northern Nigerian city of Kano during a strike against petrol prices, it was reported here.

### Bankers back

Belgrade (Reuters) - Two senior Yugoslav bankers, sacked from the party in the country's biggest financial scandal at Agrokomerc, the farming enterprise, were reinstated.

### Hospital row

Lisbon (AP) - Portuguese hospital doctors went on strike for 24 hours over pay and health service reforms.

### Sikh killings

Chandigarh (Reuters) - Sikh separatists in the north Indian state of Punjab shot dead a family of seven.

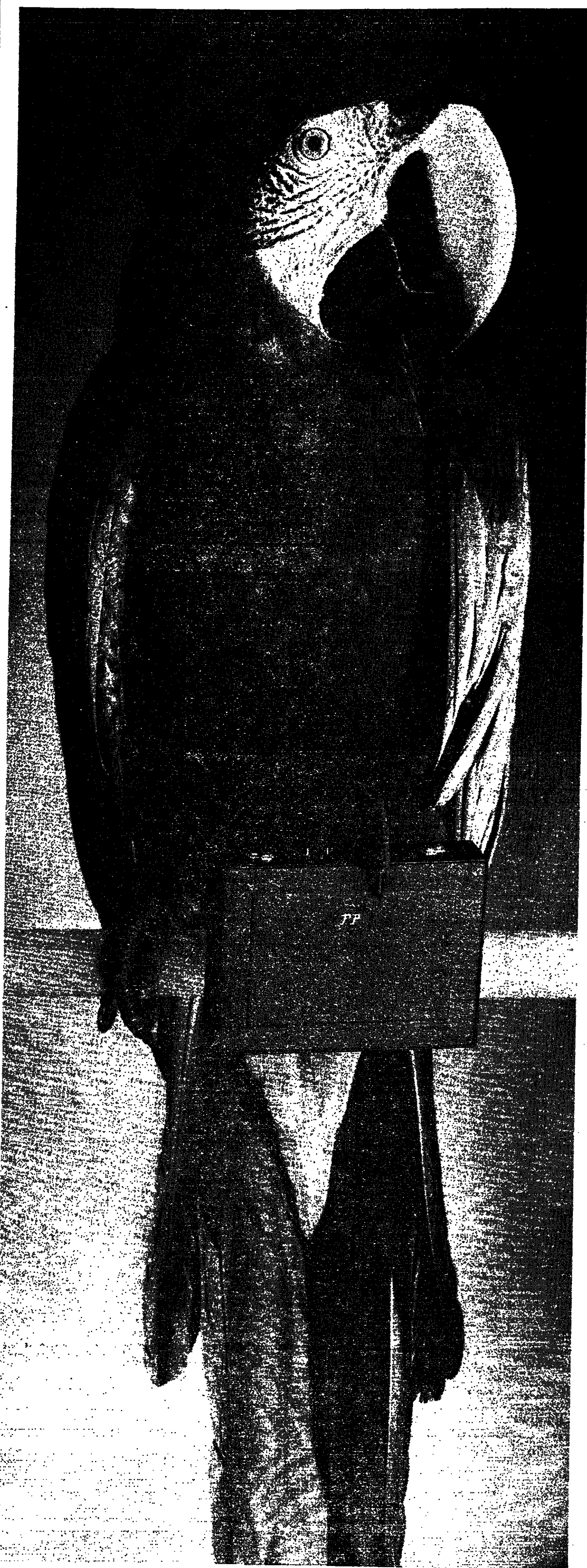
### Lawyer held

Singapore (Reuters) - Mr Francis Seow, the former Solicitor General of Singapore, was arrested after representing two political detainees in court.

### Infant deaths

Moscow (AP) - A Soviet newspaper, *Trud*, blamed poor sanitation and incest for the country's high infant mortality rate, more than double that of the US.





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# US throws support behind a Mujahidin government

By Edward Gorman

With the May 15 deadline for the Soviet Union to begin withdrawing its estimated 115,000 troops from Afghanistan rapidly approaching, the United States has reportedly given its full backing to a Mujahidin-sponsored provisional government to take the place of the current Moscow-backed Kabul regime. It has also given its clearest indication yet that it does not believe President Najibullah can survive without Russian troops.

A top State Department official was quoted by *The New York Times* yesterday as saying: "We don't accept the legitimacy of the Kabul regime. We assume that the withdrawal of Soviet forces will inevitably lead to a change of government because all the evidence we see suggests that it's the Russian presence that keeps the current Government in power."

Perhaps more importantly, US Government analysts believe the Soviet Union will withdraw its troops more rapidly than under the nine-month timetable laid down in the Geneva peace accords, predicting that the Soviet Army may be out of Afghanistan as early as November. With the possible exception of the Afghan capital, Kabul, the entire country could fall under the control of the resistance by mid-summer.

In a wide-ranging interview with the newspaper, senior State Department officials

also provided the first comprehensive assessment of US goals in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal. Contrary to the prevailing view of many Washington observers that the United States will try to turn a Soviet defeat in Afghanistan into an active strategic gain, the United States does not have a "blueprint" for Afghanistan after the withdrawal.

"We are not trying to put an American horse into the field," one official said. "We are trying to create conditions in which the Afghans can decide these things for themselves. It's not for us to decide in advance which of the Afghans should be appointed as the future governors of the country."

The United States is prepared to give its full backing to an interim or provisional Mujahidin government provided it controls most of the country, establishes a civil administration and enjoys the broad support of the people of Afghanistan. If such a government can be formed by the resistance leadership, the officials said, it would provide a legitimate alternative to the present Soviet-backed regime and "they would have earned recognition from the international community."

In lending its support to a resistance-led government, Washington appears to be finally closing the door on a possible return of the exiled Afghan King Zahir Shah, cur-

rently living in Italy, who is promoted by Moscow among others — as a possible figurehead in a future interim government. The King still enjoys the support of the three moderate groups in the seven-party resistance alliance and widespread backing among the refugees.

Washington also appears to be taking a particularly optimistic view of the resistance leadership which has, so far, shown a marked inability to agree on even the most basic questions regarding the political complexion of a future government.

On the withdrawal itself, a top State Department official said the Russians would probably implement a two-stage disengagement, pulling back first from outlying garrisons and then from Kabul. "It's dangerous once you start withdrawing troops," he said. "The smaller the residual force, the more danger. So once it begins, I think there is a fair chance they will get out in six instead of nine months."

He added that the Russians were still determined to retain a foothold in Afghanistan. "They will play the great game. There is no doubt about it. They have real concerns about their neighbour on their southern frontier. But they are going to be playing a weak hand for some time."

As for President Najibullah and his followers, the future, according to the Americans, looks bleak. The official pro-

dicted that they may be forced to flee or try to switch to the insurgent side. "In civil wars, events sometimes go a lot quicker than you expect because people want to get on the bandwagon. We saw that in Vietnam and Cambodia."

Meanwhile state-run Indian television and radio reported yesterday that Soviet soldiers have already started handing over strategic security posts in south-eastern Afghanistan, but cited no source.

In a separate development, President Najibullah was quoted in Delhi this week as saying that he was prepared to adopt a "flexible" stance on arrangements for a future government in Afghanistan and to share significant political power with representatives of the resistance.

But he warned Mujahidin leaders that a military solution to the Afghan war was futile and that if they continued to fight, they would be dealt a severe blow. Speaking at the end of his visit, he told reporters that he had ordered military operations to be cut back. "We are reducing these operations and resorting to peaceful means because our life experience has proved the futility of resort to a military solution," the Afghan leader added. He has repeatedly said he would welcome a return of the King, but when asked if he would be prepared to stand aside he said that only he — not the King — had been elected to a seven-year term.

## Flawed freedom



A Vietnamese boy looking out from a Hong Kong police van yesterday. He was among 300 others taken to a refugee centre. Fears of a change in Hong Kong's policy of accepting all refugees has prompted a surge in boat people arrivals.

## Crisis in Belgium

# Martens forms fresh coalition

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

The most serious political crisis in Belgium's postwar history, which left the country without a government for 145 days, ended yesterday after King Baudouin asked the leader of the Flemish-speaking Christian Democrats, Mr Wilfried Martens, to form a new coalition government.

King Baudouin's request came hours after five of Belgium's political parties, the Christian Democrats and Socialists from both the French and Dutch-speaking regions, and the Flemish regionalist People's Union (VU) voted to preserve the previous coalition's economic austerity programme.

The new coalition's future hinges on a precarious compromise over the historic linguistic dispute between the French and Flemish communities, which precipitated the crisis last October.

The new Government, which includes the Socialist parties which have been on the sidelines for the last six years, will be Belgium's 33rd since 1944, and the eighth led by the irreplaceable Mr Martens, aged 52.

It will have 150 seats in the 212-seat Chamber of Deputies, ensuring that Mr Martens has the two-thirds majority needed to press ahead with his plans for creating a federal state.

Despite a vow not to participate in a government with the Socialists, Mr Martens, now the second longest-serving Prime Minister in Western Europe after Mrs Thatcher, took Belgium by surprise by deciding to abandon his erstwhile right-wing coalition partners in favour of an agreement with his colleagues on the left. The right-wing Liberal party is now excluded from the Government.

Mr Martens is determined to press ahead with an economic austerity programme which calls for a reduction of public spending to 7 per cent of GDP.

Progress on proposals to further devolve power to French-speaking Wallonia and Flemish-speaking Flanders is widely hoped to be the key to a permanent solution to the linguistic dispute.

Under the terms of the linguistic compromise, French-speaking minorities in Dutch-speaking areas are granted more of a say in the affairs of the region, but their elected officials will still be required to take a language test to demonstrate that they can speak Flemish.

The deal has been denounced as a "sell out" by Mr Jos Happort, the French-speaking mayor of the Fournons region, whose refusal to take the language test re-awakened the ancient feuding between the two language groups, and plunged the country into political paralysis.

# California dreaming of escape from the high-tech nightmare

From Charles Bremner, Los Angeles

After decades cruising down the freeway of the good life, California is slamming on the brakes.

Whether you talk to immigrants from the East or long-term players in the world's first "information society", you hear the same words — too much of a good thing.

The Golden State, legendary lotus-land and experiment with the future, has outgrown itself and is creaking at the joints. As it looks from its favoured geography to prepare itself for the next century — with the economic emphasis switching to the Pacific region — California, a land of 28 million people, is pausing to think. The biggest symptom is a revolt against

growth that is sweeping the state. Not since the state rebelled against property tax with the celebrated "Proposition 13" a decade ago has any grassroots movement achieved such momentum. The Democrats are interpreting the new enthusiasm for government activism as a harbinger of a shift that spells the end of Reagan Republicanism.

Other pundits say the concerns are more local — mainly weariness with the lacklustre administration of Mr George Deukmejian, the Republican Governor.

In cities and suburbs, local politicians are working for curbs on the number and size of new office blocks and homes. In Orange County, the region of 2.2 million people south of Los Angeles, voters

are expected next month to approve an ambitious plan to tie expansion to investment in roads and other public utilities.

Proposition 13 and the revolt against government in fact contributed to the mess that for millions has soured the California dream.

Driving anywhere in the Los Angeles region is a nightmare of permanently clogged and crumbling freeways. Traffic jams at 3am are no longer rare.

The public education system, long the pride of California, has decayed into crisis, at least below university level.

Drugs have laid waste whole stretches of the city. In Los Angeles, bystanders are mown down in gang crossfire or senseless

"drive-by" shootings almost daily. And, in the latest crisis to strike the choking Los Angeles area, financially strapped hospitals have begun turning away ambulances and refusing care to the poor.

The warnings have been around for some time. Two years ago, an official report on the state of the state found that, despite its high-tech gold rush, California was losing its competitive edge.

A recent official report concluded: "There are signs of massive problems ahead." It said that it was "a fundamental misperception to assume that a post-industrial economy is a post-manufacturing economy." While Silicon Valley flourished and the new entrepreneurs flocked to the Los

Angeles area over the past decade, old industries such as steel and car-making crumbled and the new prosperity has missed a big chunk of the population.

"If California becomes a service economy, we just service somebody else's wealth and lose the ability to finance a standard of living that I think we'd like to have," said Mr John Garamendi, a state senator who is alarmed that California has been resting on its laurels. The gloom mongers are also predicting hard times ahead when a new administration cuts back the huge spending on the defence industry that has fuelled so much of California's recent growth.

But others are less pessimistic about the state, whose still-boom-

ing economy each year earns more than the United Kingdom and ranks sixth in the world.

The extraordinary growth could not last forever, they say, and the state is just pausing for breath and adjusting to the idea that, as home to about 12 per cent of the US population, it is no longer unique.

"The sheer bulk of it all means it's getting harder to separate California from the rest of the country," says Professor Stephen Cohen of Berkeley, the co-author of *The Myth of the Post-Industrial Economy*, an attack on the idea that America can survive without making goods.

"California has been a post-industrial economy since the 1920s. This is just a cycle," he says.

He blames the state for depending on illusory saviours like the computer industries.

In the view of many, California is too rich and geographically fortunate to lose as the world's economic centre of gravity shifts to Asia. Local experts talk now of the region serving as the "entrepot" for the East, a phenomenon that is already developing as the banks and corporations do more and more business across the Pacific. The demographers back this up. They predict a population of 40 million by the year 2020, much of it Asian in origin. The state passed a milestone this week with the announcement that the Asians and Pacific islanders now outnumber the state's black population.

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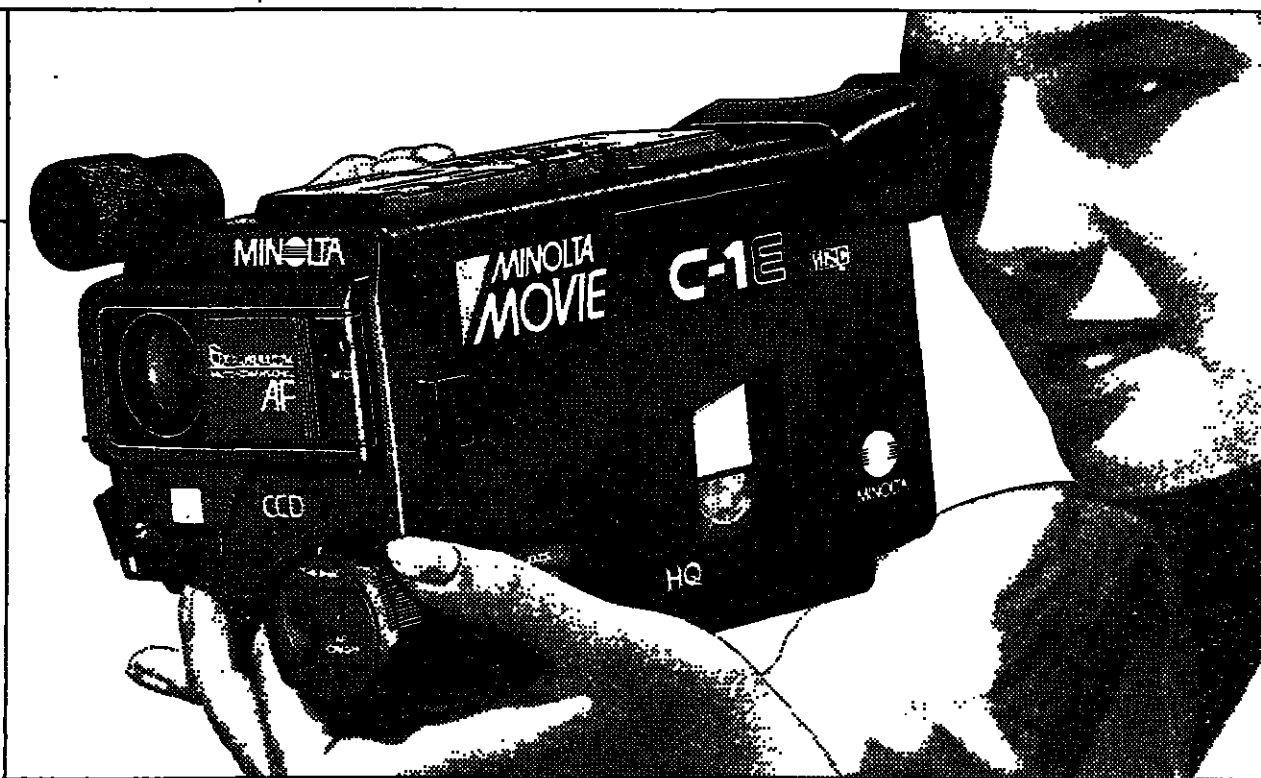
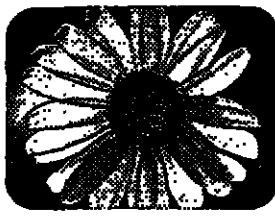
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\* Free lens offer available until 21 May 1988 or while stocks last.



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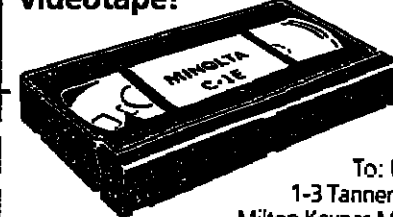
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Normally, this kit costs around £105, but as an introductory offer, it comes FREE from participating dealers when you buy the new Minolta Movie C-1E.



# TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

Dennis Compton was 70 this week, so this column would like to join the queue of greeters and say Happy Birthday Compo. Not only was he nifty in first-class cricket but he also won an FA Cup winner's medal with Arsenal — a feat unlikely to be repeated. T.F. Keane writes to say that he always believed that Compo was already unique in that respect, but being an industrious chap, he did a spot of research and uncovered a total of 20. Here they are (football clubs and Cup wins first): F.H. Birley, Oxford University (1874), Lancashire and Surrey; H.S. Carter, Sunderland (1937) and Derby County (1946), Derbyshire; D.C.S. Compton, Arsenal (1950), Middlesex; L.H. Compton, Arsenal (1950), Middlesex; H.B. Duff, Notts Co (1894), Nottinghamshire; J.H.G. Devey, Aston Villa (1895, 1897), Warwickshire; A.M. Ducat, Aston Villa (1920), Surrey; W. George, Aston Villa (1905), Warwickshire; J.H.A. Halse, Arsenal (1930, 1936), Middlesex; W.S. Keenan, Wanderers (1873), MCC; E. Labbock, Wanderers and Old Etonians (1872, 1879), Kent; H. Makepeace, Everton (1906), Lancashire; E. Needham, Sheffield Utd (1899, 1902), Derbyshire; C.E.B. Nepean, Oxford University (1874), Middlesex; C.J. Ottaway, Oxford University (1874), Kent and Middlesex; P.J. de Paravicini, Old Etonians (1882), Middlesex; W.H. Reany-Tallyour, Royal Engineers (1875), Kent; J. Shary, Everton (1906), Lancashire; H. Whitfield, Old Etonians (1879), Sussex; E.G. Wrayard, Old Carthusians (1881), Hampshire.

Of these Harry Makepeace is king. He won an FA Cup winner's medal with Everton in 1906, a League championship medal with the same side in 1915, the county championship with Lancashire in 1926, '27, '28 and '29, was capped four times for England at football and played in four Tests against Australia.

After 104 years of ground sharing and wandering, Corinthian Casuals football club are almost on the verge of settling down. The club, with its long traditions of Quixotry, has never yet paid a man for playing footy, valiantly waving the flag for amateurism in a naughty world. Now they are negotiating to take over the lease of Tolworth football club, Surrey, and at long last to establish their own ground. They started off needing £50,000, and are more than halfway there. Today principle is far stronger than playing might: the once dominating side now prop up the Greene King Spartan League and have won only five or six games all season.

If you are tired of that scruffy drinks table in the corner, let me make a suggestion: get down to Newent, in Gloucestershire and put in a bid for an item that comes under the hammer today. It is the Tattersalls bar from the Grand National course at Aintree: a compact 90ft in length with matching panelling and carved wooden arches. There are a few other items going at the same sale: cast iron columns, a finishing board, and five plaster columns from the Arkle Bar at Cheltenham. David Urquhart, of Posterity Architectural Antiques, said: "The Aintree bar has been on offer at around £50,000 but people do not seem prepared to make the journey to Gloucestershire to view it. I just hope that it doesn't go for something too silly." It will carry a reserve of £5,000.

BARRY FANTONI



'I can't understand grown men dressing up in funny costumes and following strange rituals'

This column has long been a friend of that bizarre phenomenon, cricket in Corfu. It came as a surprise to read in this paper that cricket was no longer played there. What? Has the Anglo-Corfu Cricket Society been lying to me all these years? No, they say. Corfu cricket is in great shape. You ask Nikos Kontopirakis. He is the leading batsman in Corfu — and he doesn't actually speak Greek. He was born in South Africa, the son of a Cretan emigrant, and lived there until the age of 20. In Corfu he once scored 140 in 20 overs against Yorkshire Bank.

News of another South African cricketer, Clive Rice, the grindingly successful former captain of Nottinghamshire who is currently playing for Scotland. A rather unlikely Zola Budd figure, I always think. He is now taking up motor racing, making his debut in saloon car racing back home at Kyalami. Some might think 38 a bit too old to take up this particular game, but no one can doubt Rice's competitive instincts.

Stirling Moss, the greatest Boy Racer of them all, is 60 next year — and starting a new venture in motor racing. He has a spectacular new motor car, which he will drive in six races this season, in the 1988 FISA Historic Car Championship, which includes a meeting at Brands Hatch on June 5. It is a true ever-burnt 1940s style, one of only two ever built. Moss fell in love with it on sight, and bought it without so much as listening to the engine. Moss's motives for this venture? Just love. Boy Racers are in touch with a secret of eternal youth.

This week's local elections were the first electoral test of public opinion since the general election 11 months ago. There have been no by-elections in this parliament; at this stage in the 1983 parliament there had been five by-elections.

For all the claims of success made by party spokesmen, more than 90 per cent of the 3,800 seats remained with the incumbent party. Stability rather than change was Thursday's message. With only one third of seats being contested, outside Scotland, scope for changes in control was small.

The results provide prizes, or at least consolation, for the main parties and for the Nationalists in Scotland. Overall, the Conservatives suffered a net loss of five seats (excluding the electoral wasteland of Scotland, they gained 27). Labour made a net gain of 107, and the Democrats and SDP lost a total of 72. Compared to the mid-term disasters which local elections usually spell for the governing party, the damage this time has been slight.

Labour entered the election in a defensive stance because of the gains it made in the 1984 local elections. Thursday's results confirmed the message of the opinion polls that it has cut back the Tory lead of last June and

may even be on level terms. Because of its need to break out of its Northern stronghold, Labour will be pleased with the capture of Southampton, Cambridge and Walsall, and the improvements in Bristol and Brighton.

According to BBC Newsnight calculations its lead in the popular vote over the Conservatives is 3 per cent: 41-38. This is rather less than that found by MORI in last month's Omnibus poll. These election results suggest that Labour is on the road to recovery. But the local elections of 1984 suggested the same. It remains to be seen if this recovery is more firmly based than the last one.

In the 1984 local elections the Conservatives lost 100 seats and control of Birmingham and Edinburgh. In view of the recent disaster over the poll tax, housing benefit changes and the NHS, the results will relieve Peter Brooke, the Conservative Party chairman.

The gain of Nottingham last year suggests that the receptiveness of cities to Toryism is confined to the East Midlands. The lack of progress in Wolverhampton, Newcastle (where all six seats, including that of the Tory leader of the council, were lost) and the poor performance in recalcitrant Manchester and Liverpool confirm the party's difficulties in the North.

Trafford was recaptured (grammar schools were an important local issue) at the expense of the Democrats and Amber Valley, in the Midlands, was also won. But Mrs Thatcher's election-night pledge to regain the inner cities for Conservatism is no nearer fulfillment.

In view of the SLD's troubled birth the results, though poor, could have been worse. The SLD and SDP lost about half of the 155 gains they made in 1984. The third centre party was squeezed and the squeeze was more severe when a fourth party entered. There was no break-

through in Bath or Cheltenham. The Liberal rather than SLD success in Pendle will leave David Steel with mixed feelings.

The results were disastrous for the SDP. It now has only a token presence in local government: but the lesson of Thursday is that it can spoil the chances of the Democrats.

The Alliance still remains as a home for voters disillusioned with other parties. Once again it has done better in local elections than opinion polls suggest it would do in national elections.

Scotland is, again, different from the rest of the country. Labour's 1984 local vote (45 per cent) held up. The SNP has the most to be pleased about. It gained 43 seats and its level of support (25 per cent) is nearly back to that of the heady days in the mid-1970s. It has confirmed its recent by-election strength and joins Labour as the beneficiary of Tory unpopularity north of the border.

The revamped Conservative

machine had little time to make an impact. The Conservatives fell back once more in Scotland, this time from 25 per cent of the vote in 1984 to 17 per cent on Thursday. The poll tax, on which the Nationalists have taken a tough stand, may have had some effect.

Squeezed between greater central government control and growing consumer opportunities, local government is less influential than ever. Local election votes are increasingly cast on national issues. Yet local election outcomes do affect morale in the constituencies and in Parliament.

So the 1988 local elections have provided a partial snapshot of the public mood. For all its weakness in the House of Commons Labour remains the party which is dominant in the town halls. In the seats contested on Thursday it now holds nearly twice as many (1,900) as the Conservatives.

What is clear is that the

Labour and Conservative parties have profited from the Alliance retreat since the election. The rise of the Alliance had resulted in a sharp increase in the number of hung councils. On Thursday night 13 hung councils passed to one-party control — seven to Labour and six to the Conservatives.

Had the result been bad for Labour, Tony Benn's leadership challenge would have gained strength. As it is, Neil Kinnock can claim that his new model Labour Party is winning the hearts of Britain.

One needs to be wary of interpreting the results as a guide to a general election which will not be held for another three years. Labour has slightly improved its position from 1984 and achieved a swing of nearly 7 per cent against the Conservatives since the general election. (Yet MORI's Omnibus poll, reported in *The Times* recently, showed the differences in voting intentions in local and national elections.)

The figures suggest that a general election now would produce a hung parliament. It is a sign of the electoral record of the 1980s that Labour is pleased and the Conservatives unconcerned at such a calculation.

The author is Professor of Politics at Nottingham University.

Dennis Kavanagh analyses the local election voting trend

## A pointer to stalemate

David Hart

# This authoritarian tendency

Mrs Thatcher's present difficulties with her backbenchers are of the Government's own making. Some of its proposals should have been explained more clearly. Some of them should have been better thought out. But these are ephemeral problems of political management, irrelevant to the fundamental political debate. As the 20th century enters its last decade the most important political question people will be putting to governments, East and West, concerns the proper size, scope and role of the state.

The pressure on any reformist government to act in an authoritarian manner is immense, even in a democracy. Reforms can be introduced only in the teeth of opposition from powerful vested interests. Government has to use its power to overcome them. Mrs Thatcher, like most people, has both libertarian and authoritarian instincts. Until now, her libertarian instincts have largely prevailed. Now, although the Government's rhetoric is still often libertarian, it seems to have abandoned its attempts to take power from the state and return it to the people.

The proposal for schools to opt out simply transfers their funding from local authorities to the Department of Education and Science. It is naive to assume that DES bureaucrats will be less reluctant than local authorities to attach strings to this funding. The increase in parent power will be very limited and difficult to achieve.

The community charge — ministers refuse to call it a tax even though that is just what it is — will require many more state servants to collect and will be intrusive to enforce. The housing reforms will give tenants of local authorities even more disproportionate rights than the Rent Acts and so are likely to undermine property rights, the foundation of any free society. Full-scale privatization of the remaining council housing stock would be far preferable.

The social security reforms do little to encourage those who

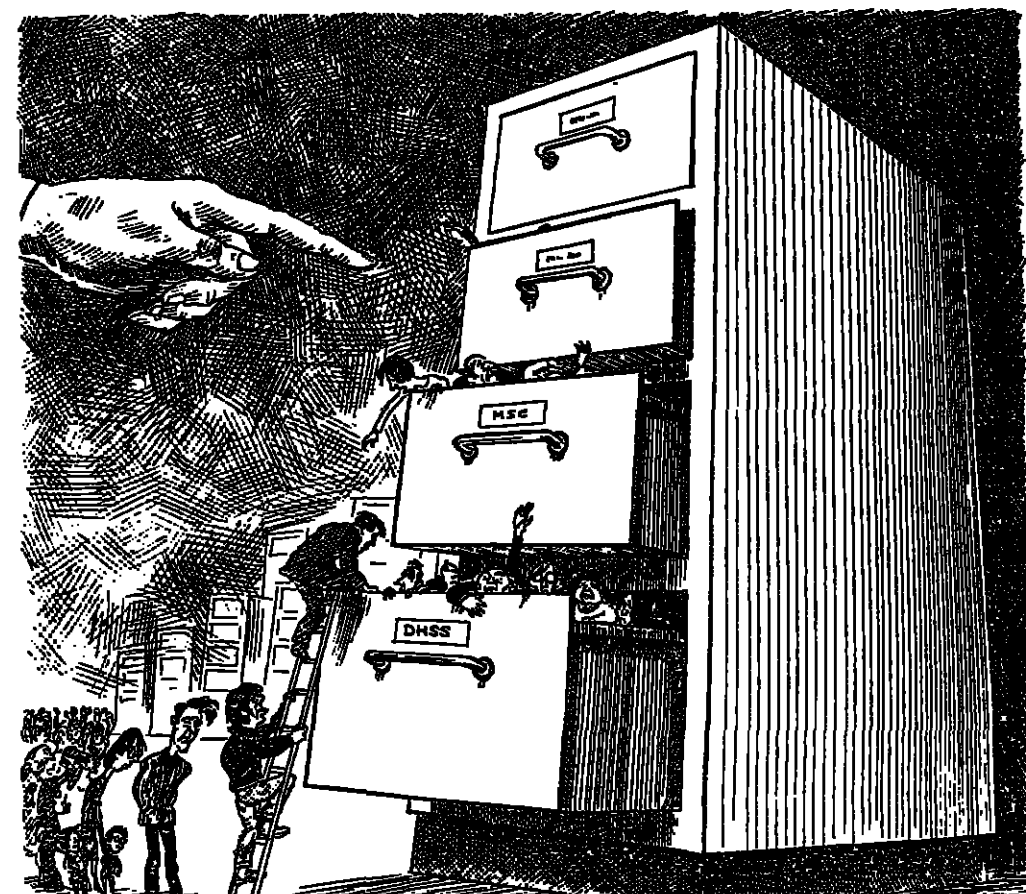
receive them to achieve greater independence of the state. The extra money provided to the Health Service will do nothing to make it more accountable to its customers.

Some ministers will admit to the authoritarian tendencies of these policy changes. They refer to a necessary compromise between Whitehall and the wishes of ministers. But there has been no compromise on the part of the bureaucrats. They have managed to create policies that will either enable them to retain power for themselves or enhance it, policies that are servant to government rhetoric but master of its principles.

Quite apart from the success of Conservative election propaganda promising power to the people, the popularity of privatization, the right to buy, deregulation and cuts in income tax all demonstrate that people want more individual freedom and less state interference. But, since 1979, the state has grown. Although individual rates of tax have been cut the overall tax take has increased from some 43 per cent of national income to nearly 52 per cent. Government spending as a proportion of gross domestic product has also risen, from 48.5 per cent in 1978 to over 51 per cent.

In the present climate of newfound and still unexpected prosperity many people can be forgiven for thinking that the size of the state is irrelevant. But the over-large state, quite apart from being offensive to libertarian principles, is likely to destroy prosperity and debauch national morality, as it did in the Sixties and Seventies.

There are two reasons. First, as a state grows, monopoly suppliers of welfare grow with it. Monopoly suppliers of welfare are as inimical to freedom as are monopoly producers of goods but are much harder to control. They are entrenched in the very structure of government. Their concentrated energies are directed to ensuring their own survival and enhancing their power and status.



Second, where there is a large state there is inevitably a large class of individuals who are forced to depend on it, some from the cradle to the grave. These people are manipulated by powerful vested interests, including the bureaucracies whose sole clients they are. Members of the under-class do not feel that they have the same rights of citizenship as the rest of us. While there is a strong government the under-class will be kept down. When the authority of this government weakens or a subsequent, weaker, government takes power the under-class will demonstrate its frustrations, principally on the streets.

Mrs Thatcher's emphasis on the needs of the inner cities shows her awareness of this

problem, although the reforms the Government proposes do not meet the fundamental issue. At present, state dependants have very little choice over housing, schooling or health care. Under the proposed reforms choice will largely remain with the state. Those who do not have the opportunity to make responsible choices cannot be expected to act as responsible citizens.

It is both a practical policy and a moral duty for government to strive to see that members of the under-class enjoy full rights of citizenship, in practice as well as in theory. The under-class will never enjoy full citizenship in practice while an over-large state provides monopoly welfare services that are free at the point of

consumption. Those who do have access to private education for their children, private health care for themselves and their families and who own their own homes are not about to surrender them, even if they believed that such surrender would benefit those who do not have the opportunity to make such choices. That is why Labour, which offers more state monopoly welfare, has made so little headway with the electorate.

A free market is the only social institution so far devised that can ensure that producers of goods and providers of services know what people want and are motivated to provide it. If the private sector provided most welfare services not only would large sums of the nation's money

be saved, individuals would get the services they want instead of being promised services that the state cannot deliver, for example, timely health care. Those who could not afford to pay for such services could and should be provided with the necessary means by the state.

Reducing the size and scope of the state is a mighty task, perhaps as hard in a democracy as in a tyranny. As governments become more experienced in the use of power they become increasingly reluctant to surrender it. The habit and practice of power is beguiling. It is this tendency that Mrs Thatcher and her ministers must resist. Many of her policies have returned power to the people. The taming of the unions, the right to buy, the cuts in personal taxes, such deregulation as there has been... these have been the underlying reasons for her three election victories. If she abandons this principle now, whether from pressure from her colleagues, her backbenchers or other powerful vested interests or simply from weariness of heart, all that she has achieved may well be thrown away.

It will be a tragedy if the third Thatcher government drifts until it is indistinguishable from any other postwar British government bouncing from one crisis to another, responding to pressure from whichever vested interest manages to shout the loudest on any particular issue. Conservative MPs, whether on the front or back benches, should stop trying to thwart the Prime Minister and, indeed, encourage her to adopt radical solutions to what are undoubtedly radical problems.

If they do, they will find, some to their surprise, that most Britons would support them. One of the greatest strengths of the Prime Minister is that her policies have always been in step with, or just in front of, ordinary people's aspirations. Now, increasingly, ordinary people's aspirations are moving ahead of the Government's policies.

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Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

## Just ask Nancy

Washington  
What do the stars hold in store for you? Write to Nancy's Star Signs, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC.

Dear Nancy, Lately I've been overcome by the feeling that I'm not wanted. I'm just a regular guy who runs a large Justice Department here in town, yet many people treat me like an ogre. Past acts of generosity to old friends keep coming back to haunt me. Trusted associates denounce me in public and my boss's wife is trying to get me fired. I honestly think I've done nothing wrong, but it's been said that I'm not very bright. Should I quit my job or stick it out?

E.M. III, Washington, DC  
Dear E.M. III, I sense you were born under the sign of Incompetence. Incompetence is noted for their eagerness to do and receive favours, their ethical obtuseness, and their general inability to take a hint. This is a good moment to heed the counsel of advisers recommending an immediate change of scene. A new chapter of your life is about to open. Seize the opportunity, but proceed with great caution. Your freedom of movement may be curtailed for five to seven years — though with time off for good behaviour.

Dear Nancy, I consider myself an easy person to get along with, yet my husband's career requires me to socialize with one woman. I find it very difficult to relate to. Could this be because she is an Anorexia and I am a Marxist-Leninist? This woman and her husband are coming to visit later this month. I dread another round of her mindless nattering

about furniture and clothes and children, not to mention her catty put-downs of Soviet society. How can I minimize tension, while at the same time making it clear that I think she is a desecrated symbol of oppressed womanhood under capitalism, and a bitch to boot?

(Ms) R.G., Moscow  
Dear R.G., Fortunately, in late May, Glasnost will be in the House of Stalin and Mars will be receding from Afghanistan. This is an auspicious moment for reaching out and establishing new relationships. Also for decorating the guest room, especially in soothing shades of blue-grey and off-white. Fido, the dog star, will be rising through the constellation of Herpes. During this period, special effort must be made to avoid topics of discord such as international relations and comparative economic systems. Reflect on whether past tensions may not have been your own fault, and watch who you're calling a bitch, you overeducated, overeducated, defeminized Communist excuse for a woman.

Dear Nancy, I would like to become more charismatic. Although my ethnic heritage entitles me to an earthy, raucous, fun-loving personality, I am widely regarded as unexciting and bland. Do the stars foretell any change in my personality between now and, say, November? Please answer within ten days in triplicate on the enclosed form. #117-D-2302.

M.D., Brookline, Massachusetts  
Dear M.D., I'm afraid the stars offer little consolation. You were born under the sign of Humorous

(the Bore), with Earnest rising through the constellation of Monotone and Nerd in alignment with Upright. There could be good news in your future, however. The stars indicate a giant, forthcoming battle, in which a boring nerd will enjoy a great triumph in early November. Unfortunately, the stars indicate that the loser will also be a boring nerd.

Dear Nancy, My White House memoirs are going to be the last of this administration to come out, and I want them to be the best. Unfortunately, the others are getting harder and harder to top. Dave Stockman told about the lying, Larry Speakes revealed that quotes of historic importance were made up by minions, and Don Regan claimed that important decisions were affected by advice from the First Lady's astrologer. My publisher says I really need some killer anecdotes to top this lot. Do you think the stars can supply some for me?

R.R., Washington, DC  
Dear R.R., What's left? Voodoo cults? Extortion plots? Cannibalism? Give up. As someone born under the sign of Ignoramus, with Blindeye rising through the constellation of RosyScenario, you are not well suited to a career as a memoirist. The stars say you should delegate the task of history writing to others. Avoid strenuous legislative and diplomatic initiatives in the near and middle future. The coming months will be a good time for a nap, especially in the morning, afternoon, and early evening.

The author is Editor of New Republic.

SCIENCE REPORT

## Facing the facts

Human herpes infections, separately responsible for cold sores and venereal disease, could owe their distinctive character to the practice of making love face to face.

This conclusion emerges from a comparison of the molecular structure of the two herpes viruses, published in the current issue of the *Proceedings of the US Academy of Sciences* by Glenn A. Gentry of the University of Mississippi.

The research turns on a molecular comparison by Gentry's team and researchers at East Carolina University of the two herpes viruses with each other and with more distant related viruses. They worked with the detailed structure of a virus enzyme known as thymidine kinase, as well as with the structure of other proteins formed during virus infection. The technique hangs on the assumption that the differences between the molecular structure of virus genes with the same function is a measure of the time since their evolutionary separation.

This principle, that of the "molecular clock", is now widely used as a means of identifying family relationships between different species of animals and plants.

The researchers conclude that the two herpes viruses, known as HSV1 (cold sores) and HSV2 (venereal disease), began to diverge from each other about 9 million years ago, at about the time of the



Paul Bryant

evolutionary separation of early ancestors of Homo sapiens from the great apes. They observed that HSV1 and HSV2 are closely related to a herpes-like virus (known as "B" virus or Herpesvirus simiae) which infects Old World monkeys both in the mouth and genitalia. This virus is inferred to be the modern survivor of an ancestral virus infecting Old World primates in the interval after their separation from the New World monkeys 35 million years ago, but before differentiation of the great apes.

Gentry and his colleagues start from the assumption that before 9 million years ago, a single herpes virus infected the Old World monkeys, both by mouth and genitalia. They also assume that, as is commonplace among all pri-

mate species except Homo sapiens and the orang utan, the great apes took the front-to-back posture at copulation. Coupled with the common practice of fellatio (observed still to be common among primate species), the ancestral herpes virus would have travelled by both routes.

On this argument, the evolutionary separation of the two human herpes viruses would have begun only with the beginning of face-to-face copulation, a consequence of the erect posture of the hominids from which Homo sapiens is derived. The result, the researchers say, is that the mouth-to-mouth and genital-to-genital routes for infection would have been relatively separate, allowing the strains of viruses infecting ancestral people by the two routes to evolve independently.

The authors of the research suggest that the tendency for the oral and genital human viruses to evolve separately would have been further reinforced by the emergence among hominid and human females of "continual sexual attractiveness".

By liberating the occurrence of mating acts from the fertile phases of the menstrual cycle, this distinctively human behaviour would have increased the opportunities for spreading viruses which, like the herpes viruses, are only intermittently infectious.

JOHN MADDIX

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1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

## CHIRAC'S SHAME

International relations conducted wholly without cynicism and opportunism is a utopian dream. A foreign policy conducted wholly without reference to morality, shared culture, or international law would be indistinguishable from that of Hitler or Stalin.

Most governments, therefore, conduct themselves according to the statesman's rule of thumb, in which short-term self-interest is moderated by varying degrees of ethical influence, international opinion and enlightened patriotism. Judged by this flexible scale of values, France, and more particularly the government of the electioneering M Chirac, has not yet hit the bottom. But it is sinking fast.

It is difficult to decide which of his recent actions is the more deserving of contempt. The decision to bring Captain Dominique Prieur back to France seems a blatant transgression of an international agreement which was already far too easy on the French.

The French government claims that she is pregnant, and has interpreted the terms of the agreement to make this justify her transfer. If she is pregnant, this may be considered to suggest a less than arduous imprisonment on her pacific atoll. Certainly, the invoking of the "medical" clause at this point is suspiciously useful to M Chirac.

By the standards usually observed among the Western democracies, not merely should both the officers responsible for the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior have served out their prison sentences in New Zealand, but the ministers responsible for sending them on their mission should have been impeached. Neither of these outcomes has happened.

Greenpeace, the subject of the French attack, does not espouse death or violence against its opponents. The French sabotage of the Rainbow Warrior was an insolent breach of international law in a fellow Western democracy. If those countries do not stick by the agreed rules in dealing with each other, they can hardly complain if the rest of the world shows equal disregard in dealing with them. The French action devalued the whole stand of the West against international terrorism.

France used the coarsest tactics of economic bullying to bring New Zealand to accept the United Nations-sponsored agreement by which the two officers were confined to a French Pacific island. Now M Chirac has

simply torn up this agreement and flung it in the face of New Zealand, the United Nations, and indeed also of Britain, insofar as we retain residual ties to the remaining dominions of the British crown.

Britain should now do its best to defend New Zealand against any further threats of French trade sanctions carried out through the European community. It is in our own interests to do so, and also in those of Europe. The development of the European community into a more united economic force and a more effective international one depends crucially on a measure of self-restraint and mutual respect among its members. This is an argument which has been urged against Britain often enough in recent years. It is equally applicable to the arrogant selfishness of France.

Also to be condemned is M Chirac's decision to pay what is in effect a ransom to Iran to procure the release of the French hostages in Lebanon. This has been only the last of a whole series of similar French actions. No decent human being can be unresponsive to the agony of the Lebanese hostages and their families. But statesmanship is a matter of making hard choices; politicking a matter of taking easy ones. The merest common sense is enough to show that M Chirac's decision was the wrong one.

It is an invitation to future acts of blackmail — unless he thinks that France is in a position to ensure that no French citizen, aircraft, or ship will ever be kidnapped or hijacked in the future. The Kuwaiti government's stand against the hijackers of its aircraft gave some hope of a stiffening of international resolve against acts of barbarism. Now France has disavowed that. The British government is right to be angry.

French policy has become an unlovely combination of bullying arrogance towards the weak — environmentalists and New Zealanders, not to mention the Kanaks of New Caledonia — coupled with cringing compromise with any state which has some sort of "hold" on France. All this has happened in the cause of domestic political advantage of the most narrow kind, without reference to the long-term interests of France or the free world. This is not patriotism, but vulgar opportunism. It is unworthy of a great nation.

## MERGERS AND MARKETS

The current takeover activity in the chocolate market has posed a question over the Government's attitude to mergers that Lord Young will need to answer — preferably after some thought about the relationship between existing competition policy and his department's 1992 campaign. Why, it is being asked, would the makers of Fruit and Nut be barred from merging with its domestic competitor, the makers of Kit Kat, while both companies can be bought by foreign rivals?

Sir Adrian Cadbury, whose company is under siege from a smaller American group thought likely to break it up, has asked the Government to rethink its policy of judging mergers almost exclusively on their effect on competition in the home market. He believes that merger policy should now take full account of the advent of the single European Community market after 1992, an increasing motive for takeover bids. He is right. Cadbury would have stood little chance of convincing the Office of Fair Trading or the Monopolies Commission that it should be allowed to merge with Rowntree, because the resulting company would dominate the British market, though not the wider Common Market. As a result, the bulk of the British confectionery industry may end up in the hands of Nestlé and Jacobs Suchard, which, as Swiss companies, are fully protected against an unwanted foreign takeover.

When Britain led the demolition of barriers to free trade and open markets in Victorian times, it was argued that free trade was good for the country that practised it, regardless of whether other countries protected their industries. This principle, undoubtedly correct in terms of benefits to consumers, has always been hard to stomach politically, because producers in the open economy can point to its manifest unfairness.

It has been abandoned in trade, where the self-righteous search for reciprocal free market entry causes more trade friction than anything else. Yet it still reigns in policy towards takeovers and mergers.

Arguments over Swiss companies are in this sense peripheral. Only London and New York

truly offer an open house for hostile takeover bids. Even after 1992, companies in all other European Community countries will, to varying degrees, be less vulnerable to takeover bids than their British competitors. This is due to a mixture of informal national *dirigisme* and different corporate financial structures.

As large groups scramble to establish strong positions throughout the Community via acquisitions, present policy will put British companies at a disadvantage which may well outweigh any benefits from London's generally greater financial sophistication. Indeed, after a year's lull, city houses have returned to the malign practice of inciting takeover bids for significant British companies as a way of drumming up business.

It would run wholly counter to the spirit of 1992 to erect a nationalistic system to protect British companies from the natural trend to Europe-wide multinationals, most of which, inevitably, will not be directed from Britain. But the government needs to take the implications seriously.

It has not yet done so. The relationship of British policy to future merger control at the Community level was specifically excluded from a DTI review, which led to a superficial policy paper published just as Lord Young was trying to cajole business to plan for 1992. No Community-wide vetting policy has yet been formally agreed.

Lord Young's belated decision to investigate the effects of the Kuwaiti government's 22 per cent stake in BP shows a welcome willingness to look at the wider national interest. Potential control of BP by an Opec member clearly does raise exceptional issues, political as well as economic. There must be no prejudice against takeovers of British companies from abroad, particularly from the rest of Europe. Nor is the single European market an excuse to give British companies freedom to absorb their domestic competitors at will. Yet the general attitude of the DTI to mergers does need adapting to a more subtle (and therefore more messy) interplay of the interests of consumers, producers and open markets.

board, or any other retailer, wants to give money-back guarantees for failure to deliver or to complete a service call on time, that's a commercial decision taken in a competitive environment for commercial advantage, and the customer is the winner.

The Government have made it clear that for accounting and reporting purposes the core business, the provision of electricity, must be shown separately. This must be the only area subject to mandatory regulations.

Yours sincerely,  
J. P. COLLIS,  
Director General,  
The Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances,  
Leicester House,  
8 Leicester Street, WC2.

### Electricity rebates

From Mr J. P. Collis  
Sir, The privatised electricity boards will have a statutory duty to provide electricity to their customers, and should they fail in this duty it is not unreasonable that the customer should obtain some compensation by right. In their other areas of activity, however, such as retailing and servicing domestic appliances, they will be competing for business against other strong outlets. If they do not satisfy customers they will not get the business.

Talk of exacting penalties for failing to deliver a cooker on time (letter, April 21) is nonsense, unless it is the intention to enact legislation covering all dealers. If a

well ahead of other manufacturers in the race to commercialise the new chemicals.

The project to develop these "ozone-benzene" substitutes represents a massive investment in expertise and money, which ICI began a considerable time before most of its competitors, American or otherwise. It is now one of ICI's largest research projects.

Yours faithfully,  
C. E. TANE (Product Manager),  
General Chemicals Business,  
ICI Chemicals and Polymers Ltd,  
PO Box 13, The Heath,  
Runcorn, Cheshire.

### Aerosol research

From Mr C. E. Tane  
Sir, Your leader, "Two environmental weeks" (April 26) was certainly thought-provoking, but unfortunately is incorrect about the speed with which chemical companies have responded to the CFC (chloro-fluorocarbon) issue.

Far from being outpaced by our American competitors, as you suggest, ICI's scientists have consistently been at the forefront of the search for alternatives to CFCs. As a result, we have every reason to believe that we are now

### Investing in antiques

From Mr Philip Chappell  
Sir, The chart shown in your article (April 29) on price rises in antique furniture compared with house or share prices is misleading. It is clear that no allowance has been made for "transaction costs", which might add a 30 per cent spread between buying and selling prices for furniture, 10 per cent for houses, but less than 3 per cent for share prices.

The chart purports to show a trend, but uses an arithmetic graph scale (even GCSE mathematics know that trick), and the base data has been chosen to prove a point, without regard to alternatives.

Try rebasing to 1978 (making full allowance for the stock market crash), include transaction costs, and use a log scale. Suddenly equities look rather more interesting and act as evidence of the wealth-creation process which provides the resource to buy the antiques.

I concede that share certificates may no longer be objects of beauty; but please let us keep our furniture as heirlooms for enjoyment and not have them treated as "alternative investments".  
Yours sincerely,  
PHILIP CHAPPELL,  
22 Froggall Lane, NW3,  
April 29.

## Back to basics in English grammar

From Mr B. W. Canning  
Sir, That teaching grammar is likely to have very little effect on performance in speech or writing is regrettably true. Yet there are still, it seems, cogent reasons for teaching students mature enough to absorb it something about the way the language works. Not to do so is to betray a trust.

Valerie Groves quotes Sir Randolph Quirk (*The Sunday Times*, April 24) as identifying five main grouches that employers make — "poor handwriting, erratic punctuation, chaotic spelling, meagre and/or inappropriate vocabulary, and ignorance of sentence construction and paragraphing".

Does not this require that we give students at least the basics necessary to improve their performance in each of these areas?

Punctuation simply cannot be taught without an understanding of basic grammar. To be able to punctuate correctly students need to know coordination and subordination of clauses; relative pronouns, clauses, and phrases; participial phrases; apposition; connective sentence links; interjections; series of words or phrases.

As for spelling, research I undertook when I was Principal of Pitman Colleges showed that words like separate and accommodation are among the most commonly misspelled. There is a list of 200 which, when learned, will eliminate 80 per cent of all spelling errors.

My particular concern is with those hundreds of thousands in employment and training whose work does or will consist of dealing for most of the day with words and figures and the manifold conventions of visual grammar. Only through some basic grammar can this be economically and effectively done.

Sir Randolph says we should not consider teaching grammar formally, but "transmute" it. It would help to tell us how.

Yours truly,  
BERT CANNING,  
41 Poynting Avenue,  
Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

From Mr Roger Hunt  
Sir, Your otherwise-balanced leader, "Back to grammar" (April 30), is marred by a boorish reference to the "sillier enthusiasts" who "adopted a creed of 'creativity' in English teaching. Any practitioner in language, like any musician or plastic artist, understands the simultaneous interplay of 'rules' and 'originality'; their creative tension is one of the rich paradoxes of human existence."

Last year, as a Fulbright exchange teacher in Birmingham, Alabama, I taught semi-literate students who had failed "basic writing" many times. It was clear that the highly-programmatic, rule and test-oriented American ap-

proach — exploited by a huge textbook industry — had completely failed these people.

What these students needed was motivation — the need to write, to contemplate and value their own experience. I got them to write their autobiographies. In all but a few cases, this produced writing of great conviction, and remarkable improvements in grammar and style.

Above all, working over draft after draft, they began to find their own voices, and feel a relish for the language that they had previously regarded as yet another tool of repression.

Incredibly, many American students graduate from high school without ever being required to write a "paper", their experience in using language limited to one-line answers in tests, or multiple-choice questionnaires.

Many teachers fear that Mr Baker's testing/grammar proposals will similarly replace humane education with tutoring for the test, that the creative, organising energies of language will be stifled, and the Goddess of Dullness be triumphant.

What we stand to lose is indeed evident in a single word in your leader, as an English teacher, I'd assumed that I had a vocation. That I was charged with what George Steiner has called one of the most vital tasks in the process of civilization. You tell me, however, that I am merely a functionary in the English "industry".  
Yours faithfully,  
ROGER HUNT,  
Norwich City College of Further and Higher Education,  
School of Arts and Sciences,  
Ipswich Road,  
Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mr J. Michael Newcombe  
Sir, Over more than 20 years as an English teacher, many of them as a head of department, I have never met a single teacher who was not concerned about the correctness of language. What is at issue is how to achieve correct usage. Far more fundamental than the teaching of grammar is the fact contained in the Kingman report that 28 per cent of all those teaching English have no qualification beyond O level.

Instead of your unhelpful call for the teaching of grammar, you would do better to press for English to be taught by those properly qualified and trained to teach it. Until the shortage of English teachers (indicated in the same way by the Bullock report in 1975) is properly recognised by the Government and until steps are taken to do something about the problem, calls for more prescriptive teaching simply avoid the most important point.  
Yours faithfully,  
J. MICHAEL NEWCOMBE,  
36 Darley Road,  
Hazel Grove,  
Stockport, Cheshire.

### Evangelical aims

From the Secretary-General of the General Synod of the Church of England  
Sir, I must confess myself taken aback by Clifford Longley's representation of the speech made by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the National Evangelical Anglican Celebration (report, April 30).

I was present at the celebration as an observer, and I did not find the tenor of the speech one of "warning", "danger" and "anxiety". On the contrary, it was a very warm and encouraging speech, and as reported was very warmly received.

The archbishop had obviously taken care to understand and treat with great seriousness a strand of Anglican tradition which is not his own. He paid ample tribute to its founders and heroes. He freely acknowledged the enterprise, vigour and vitality of current Evangelicalism within the Church of England and saw signs of an increasing theological sophistica-

tion. He gave thanks for Evangelicals' faithful and imaginative witness to the gospel.

It was in this tone of appreciation, respect and affection that he challenged the movement to use its growing strength more reflectively, and for the benefit of the Church universal.

It was not merely a matter of encouraging words: as their archbishop, he set before his Evangelical hearers an agenda which would enable them to use their undoubted strength for the benefit of all, so that "the whole Catholic Church of Christ can equally be renewed and the Gospel more faithfully proclaimed to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ".

This was powerful leadership. It was recognised by a standing ovation at the end.

Yours sincerely,  
DEREK PATTINSON,  
Secretary-General,  
General Synod of the Church of England,  
Church House,  
Great Smith Street, SW1.

### A test for salmon

From Mr John Green  
Sir, Your correspondent, Kerry Gill ("Tartan disguise fools smoked salmon buyers", May 2) gave a false impression as to what may correctly be labelled "Scotch" smoked salmon. He implies that fish cured in Scotland are the only ones which qualify. This is not the case.

The term "Scotch" is usually applied to Atlantic salmon only and excludes all species caught in the Pacific. Most of the smoked salmon now on sale is made from farmed fish, much of which is produced in Scotland.

It is only in recent years, with

the growth of the farm fish industry in Scotland, that a large-scale curing industry developed north of the border. The Jewish community in London have long been regarded as the experts, and salmon cured outside Scotland is as good as any.

It is not difficult for the inspector to prove the validity of the label by a simple test. Wide publicity of successful prosecutions would soon have the desired effect.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN GREEN,  
Managing Director,  
J. B. Green (Crouch End) Ltd  
(Fish, poultry and game dealers),  
65 Wood Vale,  
Muswell Hill, N10.

### Alien's progress

From Mrs Bridget Grafton Green  
Sir, Perhaps, most regrettably, Sir David Serpell (May 3) has missed the bus as regards the upsurge he notes this year in the Alexanders population. Had he noticed the increase earlier, he might have added an interesting medieval flavour to his diet.

Alexanders is (I keep feeling it should be "are") listed twice in a cookbook of the early 15th century (*BM Sloane MS 1201*), once as "herb for potage", i.e., cooked, and once as a "herb for salad" — that is, eaten raw, when it is referred to as "buddes of stammarche (the plant Alexander)".

John Evelyn, in his *Acetaria*, describes it in 1699 as "much of the taste of parsley" and says that "the gentle fresh sprouts, buds and tops are to be chosen, and the stalks eaten, in the spring".

Some years ago I heard a radio programme which offered quite a different use for the stalks, which are hollow — they make excellent pea shooters, hawthorn berries being better ammunition than peas, unless you grow petit pois. That might be an autumnal use for Sir David's glut.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIDGET GRAFTON GREEN,  
88 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.

From Miss Charlotte Boyd  
Sir, The flower buds of Alexanders are delicious in salads, and the roots may be served instead of parsnips. The leaves can be used as herbs or made into a white sauce, and the soft stems can be cooked like asparagus.  
Yours faithfully,  
CHARLOTTE BOYD,  
The Old Rectory,  
Eitchingham, East Sussex,  
May 3.

## Fond memory of mean streets

From Miss Dorothy Wright  
Sir, The renewal of the inner cities has been going on for many years, though not with such distinguished backers (report, April 21). In the early 1950s I went twice or three times a week across London from Chelsea to Shoreditch and Bethnal Green to teach crafts in hospitals. One class was of men recovered from but permanently damaged by TB.

They were intensely loyal to their own place, believing it to be the only area that one would want to live in. Some had hardly moved away for a day. One man of a family of birdcage-makers learnt to make small baskets very well, but when I was able to arrange for one of his products to be shown in an exhibition in Piccadilly he would not go to see it, partly from fear, partly from scorn.

At this time a lot of the so-called mean streets in the area were being pulled down for redevelopment and the people who had lived there all their lives were being rehoused in flats far away. There was much depression and homesickness.

In time the rate of TB rose. I had

to take on a new job at the London Chest Hospital. My ward was full of young, married girls lying pale, listless and pretty. I was told that they had been moved far from mothers and grannies and, overcome by the splendours of their new abodes, had starved themselves to provide the curtains and furniture proper to such a situation.

That period ended with the discovery of streptomycin, the wonder drug that cured TB. My years of train and bus journeys into Cockney London came to an end, but the memory of those loyalties to a place of unlovely streets and shops, of pigeon lofts and yards full of grey washing has never left me.

Have we grown any more caring about the feelings of people who love the places where they and their families belong? This time will they be thought of when the bulldozers have done their work? Will the new streets in the old places be for them? Some of the churches will still be there and the small gardens with seats for the old.

Yours faithfully,  
DOROTHY WRIGHT,  
Long Whistone,  
Bovey Tracey, Devon,  
April 29.

### Problems of racism

From Professor Robin Cohen and Professor John Rex  
Sir, We at the Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations have followed your coverage of the Macdonald inquiry into the incidents that occurred at the Burnage High School in Manchester with concern (report and leading article, April 27).

You draw a misleading equivalence between anti-racism and racism-awareness training (RAT). This has to be challenged. The debate on RAT is adequately documented. "Anti-racism" is based on a refutation of the assertion that "all white people are racist" and on the premise that racism is a function of racially institutionalised unequal power relations in the structures of British society.

The attempt to link anti-racist teaching with the "fanaticism" of a clique of "left-wing activists" is historically inaccurate and a gross oversimplification of debates that transcend left/right divisions in British politics.

The conflation of the widely differing Honeyford, McGoldrick and Savery cases is similarly reprehensible. The symbolic power of the specific inevitably informs all political generalisation but the cynical manipulation of this complex and tragic case to score petty points and support simplistic rhetoric is truly contemptible.

Whatever the full facts behind this case, they in no way undermine the pressing need for meaningful programmes that attempt to address the root problems of racism in this country.

Yours,  
ROBIN COHEN,  
JOHN REX,  
University of Warwick,  
Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations,  
Coventry, West Midlands,  
April 27.

### No Samaritans

From Flight Lieutenant P. J. C. Levermore  
Sir, Your Motor Industry Correspondent wrote at length (April 26) of the disruption to traffic caused by the fatal accident that occurred on the elevated section of the M4 at Chiswick last Sunday.

As the driver of the vehicle involved in collision with the motor cycle, I would like to add a personal note to this sad tale. Whilst hurrying to give assistance to the injured, my wife attempted to stop a passing taxi whose driver had slowed down to look at the accident. Unfortunately, the driver's response, when asked to summon help using his radio, was unrepeatable and he sped off.

I feel that this response was typical of many drivers who witnessed the accident and, rather than help, weaved their way through the accident site, thereby making life hazardous for those trying to give first aid.

Whilst your correspondent attaches great importance to the fact that traffic was stopped and flights missed, he seems unable to grasp that a life was lost and, in an attempt to reduce the risks to future road users, a prompt and full investigation had to be carried out.

Full marks to the police, who arrived on the scene within five minutes, but it appears that, as a driving community, we are indeed a nation of Levites (Luke x. 32).  
Yours faithfully,  
P. J. C. LEVERMORE,  
3 Church Street,  
Ducklington,  
Nr Witney, Oxfordshire,  
April 30.

### Speaking volumes?

From Mr James Morwood  
Sir, The new prospectuses from Oxford and Cambridge Universities have just arrived. The back of the Oxford one shows an undergraduate poring over a book. The back of the Cambridge one reads, "You're better off talking to Barclays".

Can Cambridge be trying to tell us something?  
Yours sincerely,  
JAMES MORWOOD,  
3 Gayton House,  
Grove Hill,  
Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex,  
April 24.



## ON THIS DAY

MAY 7 1935

George V (1865-1936) acceded to the throne on the death of his father Edward VII in 1910. The Jubilee celebrations evoked a spontaneous outburst of affection for the King, who remarked to a member of his household, "I'd no idea they felt like that about me. I'm beginning to think they must really like me for myself". The Jubilee broadcast followed the pattern of the Christmas ones (begin in 1932) — simple, plain speaking, the sentiments all the more effective coming from the King's deep, paternal voice.

## THE KING AND HIS PEOPLE

### A DEDICATION TO SERVICE

### CALL TO YOUTH

The King broadcast the following message to the Empire last night—

At the close of this memorable day I must speak to my people everywhere. Yet how can I express what is in my heart? As I passed this morning through cheering multitudes to and from St. Paul's Cathedral, as I thought there of all that these twenty-five years have brought to me and to my country and my Empire, how could I fail to be most deeply moved? Words cannot express my thoughts and feelings. I can only say to you, my very dear people, that the Queen and I thank you from the depth of our hearts for all the loyalty and — may I say? — the love with which this day and always you have surrounded us. I dedicate myself anew to your service for the years that may still be given to me.

I look back on the past with thankfulness to God. My people and I have come through great trials and difficulties together. They are not over. In the midst of this day's rejoicing I grieve to think of the number of my people who are still without work. We owe to them, and not least to those who are suffering from any form of disablement, all the sympathy and help that we can give. I hope that during this Jubilee Year all who can will do their utmost to find them work and bring them hope.

Other anxieties may be in store. But I am persuaded that with God's help they may all be overcome, if we meet them with confidence, courage, and unity. So I look forward to the future with faith and hope.

It is to the young that the future belongs. I trust that through the Fund inaugurated by my dear son the Prince of Wales to commemorate this year many of them throughout this country may be helped in body, mind, and character to become useful citizens.

To the children I would like to send a special message. Let me say this to each of them whom my words may reach—The King is speaking to you. I ask you to remember that in days to come you will be the citizens of a great Empire. As you grow up always keep this thought before you; and when the time comes be ready and proud to give to your country the service of your work, your mind, and your heart.

I have been greatly touched by all the greetings which have come to me to-day from my Dominions and Colonies, from India, and from this Home Country. My heart goes out to all who may be listening to me now wherever you may be — here at home in town or village, or in some far-off corner of the Empire, or it may be on the high seas.

Let me end my words to you with those which Queen Victoria used after her Diamond Jubilee, 38 years ago. No words could more truly or simply express my own deep feeling now: "From my heart I thank my beloved people. May God bless them."







May 7-13, 1988

## SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE  
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

## Some day my chintz will come

Down go the  
walls, out goes  
the coffee table.  
The interior  
designers are  
moving in.  
Catherine  
Bennett reports

How long is a piece of string? Interior designers like that sort of expression. All the prosaic questions about cost, durability, how long the work will take, can be answered with a harassed pout and a reference to style. This makes it very difficult for a lay person to have a sensible conversation with certain interior designers. So coy are the designers about the intricacies of their trade, so loath to deter a new customer, that they are reluctant to admit that their work possesses any distinguishing feature whatever. It is more rewarding to discuss their emotions, their sense of being as close to a client as a psychiatrist, a doctor, or even a hairdresser.

Later this month the British Interior Design Exhibition, a show of room sets, should give potential customers a more distinct idea of the emotional responses of around 20 established designers. But hundreds more will be absent, from the well-staffed consultancies with their own architects, workshops, and shop fronts in Chelsea, to the new, thriving breed of ladies who work from the back of a Volvo, whose showplace is their own drawing room, and clientele acquired at drinks parties. For reasons no designer can quite explain, aside from affluence, the British appetite for interior design has grown from virtually nothing before the war to insatiability. Some of the most famous names have waiting lists of six months, two years. It is not even necessary to appear modern: much of the market belongs to new money, anxious to appear old. Unknown ladies have only to parade their skills in matching chintz and marbling to find that they, too, are in work.

"Sometimes people don't realize the sympathy and love that is there," said Anthony Collett, a loquacious South African who once worked as an architect for John Stefanidis. As for lumpen questions about taste: "Our style is the house we are working in, we are chameleons."

Even so, Collett and his partner, David Champion, a thin South African who wears diamond ear-rings and detests coffee tables, have reacted



Mary Fox Linton: moderate modernist, who will provide Perspex and cool colours

*'Most people make do with the chintzy look because they have not seen the other'*

often enough with a bold show of classicist details, with architrave shelves, Arts and Crafts furniture, monumental fireplaces and mirrors, for them to have become tolerably predictable chameleons, favoured by rich young fashion, music and design people and *The World of Interiors* magazine. Rosie Thomas, a romantic novelist, could be certain when she entered into a contractual relationship with the two men to re-design her Victorian house in Kentish Town that her large drawing room would not be congested with florid chintz and frills. "I hate tables with flouncy skirts on them; this look is solid and handsome," she

said, as Champion and Collett prowled around her doomed coffee table and Conran sofas planning "Stage Two" of the transformation. A dining room and kitchen, bedroom and garden room and bathroom had already been done, knocked through and scaled up with vast doors, slabs of marble, friezes, and what her designers call "important vases". Anthony, as his partner will tell you, is "vase-aholic".

"In the guest lavatory," Champion said, "what about some quite amusing little candy stripes?"

"Well, why not?" said Mrs Thomas. "How exciting," she said several times, as Champion discussed a Lutyens style sofa with chintz-like lattice back, some William Morris chairs which were being restored by a "divine" Welshman, and a screen.

What about a wonderful new torn paper effect for the screen? "It's a bit Apollinaire, a bit Cubist," Mrs Thomas said. "It strikes fear into my heart."

"Of course," Champion said, "we yearn for you to have unlined Romans in due course." Mrs Thomas still looked reluctant. "I know we'd just never use them," Anthony smiled. "Well, when you've acquiesced on the carpets."

"Nag, nag, nag," Mrs Thomas laughed, with an air of ready capitulation. How would she feel about a mirror over her second fireplace? "I would die for that," David said, and even though Mrs Thomas protested that for her part, "I recoil from it, slightly," it seemed likely that there would be a second mirror, that the whole house would owe far more to the taste of Collett, Champion and Collett's architect partner John McLeod, than the reservations of their client.

But Rosie Thomas said that after years of being *ad hoc* she had now got what she wanted: a light, practical house for her family, which was also "special".

Such eager participation is unusual. Mary Fox Linton, whose design and decorating services supply the moderate modernist with Perspex tables, cool colours and anti-septic downlighting, has found, in 25 years of designing, that only 15 per cent of her customers want to put as much into their interiors as their designers. "A lot of this job is administration," she said, sitting behind a black conference table in white room in a black and white jacket. "The design is almost the last thing you do. You spend more of your working hours running the business



Imogen Taylor: started her career restoring the war-torn stately homes of England

*'I like a little romance, a beautiful tea laid on a silver tray, curtains that float...'*

than flouncing around saying: 'I see it in pink, darling.' If interior design is as straightforward as that, why pay someone else to do it? It is not as if people pay for advice on their clothes. "Well, a lot of them should," she said, laughing heartily. "I think the majority of people make do with something very chintzy and English, because they haven't seen the other — it isn't really what one's had. English people who've travelled abroad really understand what light and space can do for how you feel. If you've got a lot of furniture and it's inherited, the chintzy look goes with it more easily — but if you haven't, why waste your money on something that is



David Champion: prowls around throwing out coffee tables

*'We're chameleons, our style is the house we're working in'*

and designers resist categorization, the matching of customer and professional appears to be a matter of pure luck — of chance recommendations and magazine sightings. "I don't know how people choose a decorator, it must be ghastly," said Min Hogg, who, as editor of *The World of Interiors*, has for the last seven years half recorded, half promoted the feverish proliferation of interior designers. But *Interiors* does not delve into what its featured designers might charge. "Do you think it's gone up to £10,000 a room, if not more?" Hogg asked her staff, who did not reply. "I mean a really elaborate lot of curtains can be £20,000 alone." And as for interior design qualifications which might guarantee excellence: "I'm trying to think of a designer who's trained," Hogg said, and thought without success. "I think training's probably pretty bad unless you've gone and worked for somebody because the schools are just useless. I think a lot of people start by just boasting."

"They do their own house quite nicely, and that becomes a fictional client. Then they hope it inspires somebody to say 'could you do the chair seats?' and then it progresses."

"Everybody can get into it very easily, through friends," said Miss Imogen Taylor, a director of Colefax and Fowler, the originators of the multiple chintzed, wall-papered, highly furnished "country house" interior which is now seen bastardized in every estate agent's window. "But the pitfalls are numerous. Structural things are very dangerous to play with. Equally, have you learnt what height to make the dado rail, what is an 1860s cornice, or a 1760s cornice? How do you know all that?"

Miss Taylor knows, because in 1949, having trained in textile design, she went to work for John Fowler when he was restoring and decorating stately homes which had suffered during the war as hospitals and barracks. "The client list used to read like *Debut* because the average middle class people hadn't got round to decorating. It wasn't a thing people did. One was still a tradesman rather than a professional."

Today Miss Taylor finds herself shipping complete stately home interiors into the empty apartments of the American rich, who will throw out every piece of white leather and chrome because English country houses are temporarily in fashion. "But we've never thought about it as fashionable, because we are certainly not going to change,"

Miss Taylor said. "I'm just going to do what I've been doing for the last 30 years but I'm going to do it better."

In an office hung with green chintz curtains, she took a copy of *The World of Interiors* from a green and white sofa where her small dog was dozing. One article celebrated a white-painted, parquet-floored curtainless room. "Look at this, I couldn't live in that room on a night in December; it's cold, and how would you keep it heated? I can't see any radiators. And it has only three chairs — how would you group yourself, except for standing, or lying on a cold floor. I could get on with that room — it's just

ready to begin and it's ended there. I don't like minimalism, it's uncomfortable."

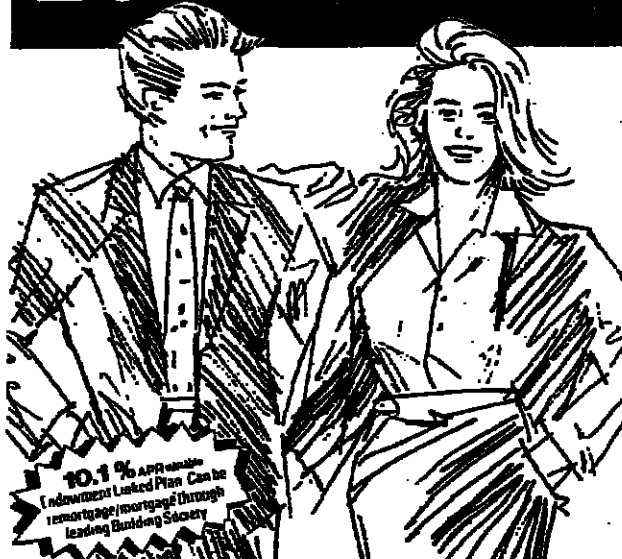
Miss Taylor is not afraid of losing customers who want glass and steel — she says she would recommend such people to visit Mary Fox Linton. "I like romance, really. I like curtains that float about a bit, and a beautiful tea laid on a silver tray, and books and flowers and music — a fullness of life that sterility takes away."

*The British Interior Design Exhibition 1988 opens at Chelsea Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3, on May 26 and shows until June 19.*

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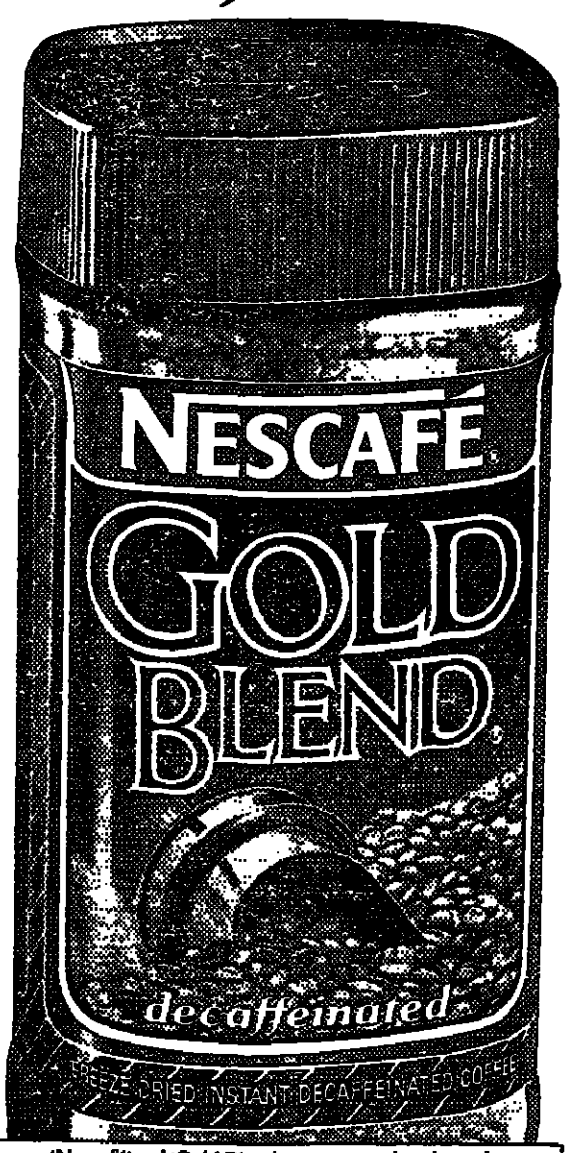
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### INDEX

Arts Diary	21	Continuing	17
Bridge	21	Out and About	15
Chess	21	Reviews	21
Crossword	21	Shopping	18
Drama	19	Taste Cook	18
Eating Out	19	Travel	14
Galleries	22	TV Times	22



Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 1

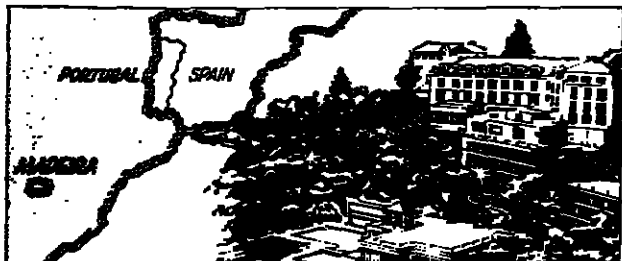
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# Surviving Central America

How to see it all without risking your neck, by Ben Box

Travel on the beaten track presents no problems anywhere in Central America.

Off it, Costa Rica and Honduras at least are perfectly safe. Areas which should be avoided because of civil strife are parts of Guatemala, but not the main tourist areas, much of El Salvador and the Nicaragua/Honduras border region. Permission usually has to be sought to visit the worst affected areas; if in doubt check with British consulates.

Each country has its attractions and a month would provide ample scope for sampling those of one, or a combination of several. With the exception of Belize, they share a Spanish colonial heritage, which has displaced native cultures in all but Guatemala. Here, indigenous Mayan Indian traditions are strong, incorporating attractive weaving and great hospitality. Guatemala also has Mayan architectural ruins and beautiful countryside.

Different ethnic groups survive in Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, and there is a mix of Mayan and Negro elements in Belize. Costa Rica has a superb system of national parks, rich in flora, butterflies and birds. It also has lovely beaches, while Belize and Honduras have both

beaches and Caribbean reef for excellent diving. These two countries also have Mayan remains.

There are no direct flights from Britain to Central America. The best jumping-off points are either Guatemala City or San José (Costa Rica). A fixed date return fare from London to either city, with KLM via Amsterdam or Iberia via Madrid, can be found from £525 upwards.

An alternative route is via Miami (£300 return from London on some tickets), thence to Central America, but schedules on this route do not avoid staying overnight in Miami. To reach Honduras, you can either fly from Guatemala City (approximately £45 one way), from Miami (£200 for a 30-day excursion), or go overland. To Tegucigalpa from Guatemala City by bus involves changing buses either in San Salvador or, if you want to avoid El Salvador, at the Guatemala/Honduras border or in San Pedro Sula.

There are no rail connections between the Central American countries. The passenger services from San José to Puerto Limón in Costa Rica, and beside the Panama Canal are particularly interesting, but the few trains that still run

in each country (all except Belize) are very slow. Buses are the normal means of transport, and are very crowded, especially in Nicaragua. The alternative is to hire a vehicle.

The only Central American country for which British citizens need a visa is Guatemala (it costs £10), but check all entry requirements with Consulates before you leave.

Take only dollars, either as travellers cheques or cash; in some countries there is a parallel rate of exchange which will make your money go further. Credit cards are quite widely accepted. It is important to know the procedure should your travellers cheques or credit cards be lost or stolen.

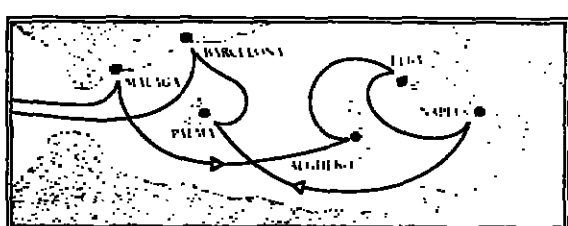
Your GP can advise on inoculations, anti-malaria prophylaxis and other precautions, but more detailed summaries of health conditions are provided by Masta, Keppel Street, London, WC1 (01-631 4408). In your health kit you must include protection against the sun, and note that tampons and condoms may be hard to find. Other essentials are good walking shoes, a waterproof outer garment, a torch, a universal bath plug, a Swiss Army-type knife and an alarm clock.

Travel Agencies with detailed knowledge of travel to



Fast food in Panama: each of the Central American countries has its attractions

Central America include: Journey Latin America, 16 Devonshire Road, London W4 (01-747 3108); Media Travel, 12 Dover Street, London W1 (01-491 3881); Trailfinders, 42-8 Earls Court Road, London W8 (01-938 3366); Ecuador Travel, 37-39 Great Marlborough Street, London W1 (01-437 7534). Organized tours to the region can be arranged to Guatemala (for example, with Journey Latin America, Bates Tours, Barrington Road, Dorking, RH4 3EJ (0306 885991) or Twickers World, 22 Church Street, Twickenham, TW1 3NW, (01-892 7686) and Costa Rica (Twickers World).



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## By the hibiscus and the pigsties

In a small town  
in Honduras  
a challenge about  
the taking of  
photographs was  
not the official  
threat it seemed



"Have you been taking photographs?" a man in a black bomber jacket asked me in Ojoje. Immediately I thought back to the previous week, to another Honduran town where a policeman had forbidden me to take a picture because one wall of the street was the police headquarters.

"Yes," I said, "no point in lying, with my camera hanging round my neck."

"You come to the mayor's office then?" But he did not rip out my film. "We have a wedding here today," I was told, "and their camera has broken. Can you take some pictures for them?" I duly obliged, and the groom invited me to join the celebration lunch. He wore sunglasses and a red baseball cap; his bride was in pink, with gold studs on her pink stockings. Both were middle-aged.

Everyone was at the party: the mayor, the judge, the police chief, the treasurer, friends and relations. At the Comedor San Juan, the Conjunto San Juan (vibes, drums, percussion, bass, two violins and three banjos) ran through its repertoire of dances, then repeated it. Nobody danced or clapped.

The hosts went into a side room from where they summoned the selected few for sweet Martini Spumante and pink-iced cake (the overweight nieces seemed to get the biggest slices), then for beer (the police chief was well-served here).

Lunch followed, and when it had been cleared away I said that I had to return to the capital. Before I left, the mayor insisted that I took more pictures, so I photographed the police chief, the judge, the mayor and his brother's family, everyone very grave posing by the red hibiscus, the latrines, the pigs, the chickens and the leftovers thrown out for the animals.

from the surrounding hills on horseback, and daytrippers in their cars from the capital, Tegucigalpa, one hour's drive away.

Within a similar radius of Tegucigalpa are other towns - old mining settlements in the mountains and pines, like Valle de Angeles, Santa Lucia and San Juanico. Yucatan is a national monument with two-storey buildings - unusual for colonial architecture - cobbled streets and the best cane spirit, *aguardiente*, in the country.

Mayan legacy: Copán ruins

Further away, several hours over appalling roads, is Copán, from where the Spaniards mounted their campaign against Lempira, Honduras' last Indian chief. The only evidence now is the hill fort, with original cannon, commanding a view of the town and the green mountains which surround it. Below the fort are the town's red-tiled roofs, unpaved streets, and walls painted white or the customary pink or turquoise.

In every part of Honduras, people express their political allegiance by hanging out a blue flag or poster for the National Party, or red for the Liberals. In the central highlands this rivalry overshadows, but does not obliterate, the presence of Contra camps and US military personnel elsewhere in the country. Supposedly, US support is introducing economic benefits, but little filters through to the rural areas, and this is keenly felt. The poverty is not arresting, but all-pervading, a low level of sanitation, poor infrastructure, no prevention of further deterioration and scant resources for a cure.

duras has the world's largest concentration of Peace Corps. They are working in education, sanitation, agriculture and forestry. In Copán, a volunteer is helping to set up a National Park to protect the forest on Honduras' highest mountain, Celacoe. The Honduran Ecological Association hopes that a government decree will be passed to protect all such heights in the country.

Many more bus hours from the capital, through stops where passengers are besieged by vendors of oranges, bread and soft drinks in plastic bags, is Copán, the best-preserved Mayan ruin in Honduras. The one kilometre walk from the present village passes stelae (carved standing stones), but gives no hint of the magnificence of the site. Spider webs as big as theatre backcloths stretch between the trees whose roots have distorted the grand stairways. An empty ballcourt is presided over by a stela of a priest; stone parrots' heads are the goals on the raked sides. The rules of the game can only be guessed at from carvings found here and at other Mayan sites. The green, pink and beige stone temples which overlook the calm plazas are as removed now from their bloody ceremonial past as they are from current Honduran political concerns.

B.B.

### TRAVEL NOTES

International flights to Honduras go either to the capital, Tegucigalpa, or to the second city, San Pedro Sula, which is the most convenient starting place for a bus journey to Copán (about 5 hours). Honduras can be reached by plane from all the Central American capitals, Mexico City and the US but there are no direct flights from London. Inside the country, if you don't want to travel by bus, the only alternative is to hire a vehicle (off the main roads, high clearance and four-wheel drive is advisable). The dry season inland is normally from November to April, with December and January as the coolest months. On the Caribbean coast rain is more frequent, with least in April and May; the coastal region is much hotter than the rest of the country. British visitors to Honduras do not need visas.

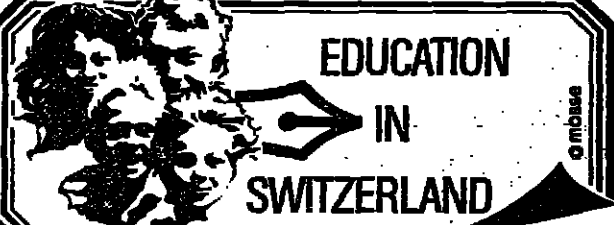
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## TRAVEL 2

## TRAVEL NEWS

## Austria for DIY set

Austria has traditionally been plagued by a shortage of self-catering holiday accommodation, but Twickenham-based Interhome (01-891 1294) has come up with a programme offering more than 1,000 properties in 200 towns or villages throughout the country.

Prices start from as low as £30 per person per week and range up to £200-plus, and the range of accommodation includes modern apartments in Vienna, chalets in Zell, lake-side flats in Zell am See and luxury chalets in Kitzbühel.

## Holidays to a tee

Golf in the States is an activity sport on the grand scale. Longshot Golf Holidays, run by Meon Travel, is giving British enthusiasts a chance to try out some of the top courses in South Carolina and Florida. At one of the centres being used, Hilton Head Island off the South Carolina coast, golfers have a choice of playing on 27- or 54-hole courses while the Breakers Resort Hotel, 50 miles from Charleston, has no less than 44 championship courses within the immediate area.

Typical prices range between £1,325 to £1,840 for a two-week holiday, including 18 holes' play daily with the use of a shared electric cart, while non-golfers qualify for reductions of between £55 and £350 per week. Information: 0730 66361.

## Early birds

Even before the summer season has really got under way, the travel trade is trying to persuade clients to book early for holidays next winter. The Pickfords travel agency chain is giving a £10 per person reduction to all customers registering for a winter holiday in advance of the first brochures being published. The offer is conditional on purchase of Pickfords' own travel insurance.

British Rail has reduced the cost of rail/sea travel to France and Germany by up to £60. The previous range of fares has been simplified and a new two-month "leisure return" fare has been introduced to most destinations in France. The new return rate from London to Nice is now £109 compared with the previous level of £172, while the two-month fare to Paris comes down from £69 to £56.50.

Fares to Germany via Belgium or the Netherlands have

been reduced for groups of two to five people travelling together. A couple travelling from London to Cologne via Ostend now pay £136.90 return, a reduction of more than £25.

## Global vision

Round-the-world air fares are a useful option for travellers who want to plan a flexible itinerary, and Far East Travel Centre (01-734 7050) has introduced four new routes which offer stopovers in Australia or New Zealand. They include a low-season fare of £900 with Singapore Airlines and Air New Zealand which allows passengers to stop off in Singapore, Brisbane, Sydney or Auckland, as well as a £975 fare with Cathay Pacific which offers stopovers in Hong Kong and a choice of Australian gateways.

Free holidays for children on St Lucia are being offered this month by Tradewinds Faraway Holidays (01-731 8060). Accommodation is at the Caribbe Hotel on the island's north-east coast and the deal is based on the child sharing a room with two adults. Adult price per person for a week's bed and breakfast is £657.

## TRAVEL BOOKS

*The Out of Season Holiday Guide*, by Roger Hicks and Frances Schultz (Christopher Helm, £5.95) is a useful first-stage planner, especially for those with ample time and limited cash. As the authors rightly say, the most popular holiday spots are often more enjoyable outside high season. This book is not about what to see, but when to go where worldwide, and how to get good value for money.

*The Alternative Holiday Guide to Exploring Nature in the Wilds of Europe*, by Julian Cremona and Robert Chote (Ashford Press Publishing, £8.95) must have one of the dreariest titles on the holiday bookshelf. Geographically it is not as comprehensive as the title suggests, but expedition leaders Cremona and Chote know their stuff on the Hebrides, Ireland, Norway, Iceland and Spain.

*Well Away - A Health Guide for Travellers*, by Doctors Eric Walker and Glyn Williams (British Medical Journal, £4.95) is short and simple. It is a good basic guide for family and business travellers. It deals with common problems such as jet lag and sunburn, as well as mountain sickness, snake bites and the more exotic hazards of long-haul travel.

S. C. P.

## OUT &amp; ABOUT

## A stone menagerie

Nigel Andrew reports  
on the riches of a  
Jacobean mansion  
which has made its  
owner almost penniless

When the owners of historic houses are reduced to eating parrot seed, you may be sure that they have really run out of money. An alarming story reached me recently that Cornelia Bayley, owner of a marvellous Jacobean mansion called Plas Teg, had been driven to share the vicinals of her beloved parrots.

It was all a bit of an exaggeration, she assured me when I visited her — but only a bit. Mrs Bayley, having spent £550,000 so far on restoring a house which was all but derelict, is spectacularly broke. She bought Plas Teg, about 10 miles from Chester, with the help of a Welsh Office grant, which soon ran out. At the time, having just restored the Priory at Ketton in Rutland, she felt ready for a real challenge. Plas Teg was certainly that.

When she bought it, it had much of its roof and several floors missing, small trees growing out of the fabric doors and windows had gone, and only two rooms were inhabited, or indeed habitable. It had reached this state despite a patching-up job in 1958 by Patrick Trevor-Roper (brother of the historian), to whose family the house had passed some 200 years before.

Originally Plas Teg was built for Sir John Trevor, a protégé of Howard of Effingham who grew rich on a nice portfolio of official positions and monopolies. The house he erected in 1610 — possibly to a design by the great Robert Smythson — was the ultra-modern status symbol of a successful courtier, and a wholly alien presence in the North Welsh landscape. Indeed it is still a surprising apparition, looming up beside the Wrexham road, there is no other house like it in the country.

Sir John himself seems not to have known quite what to do with the place, and spent little time in it, though he did manage to die there (his monument is in Hope church nearby). Successive generations of Trevors were equally disinclined to live in Plas Teg, and the grounds were already something of a wilderness by the 1660s.

At the end of the 18th century, having passed to the Trevor-Ropers, it was lived in occasionally by the 18th Lord Dacre and his wife, who made some improvements. During the First World War Belgian refugees were accommodated in the house, and in the next war American servicemen. After that the place was used as a furniture repository, and was under threat of demolition when Patrick Trevor-Roper stepped in.

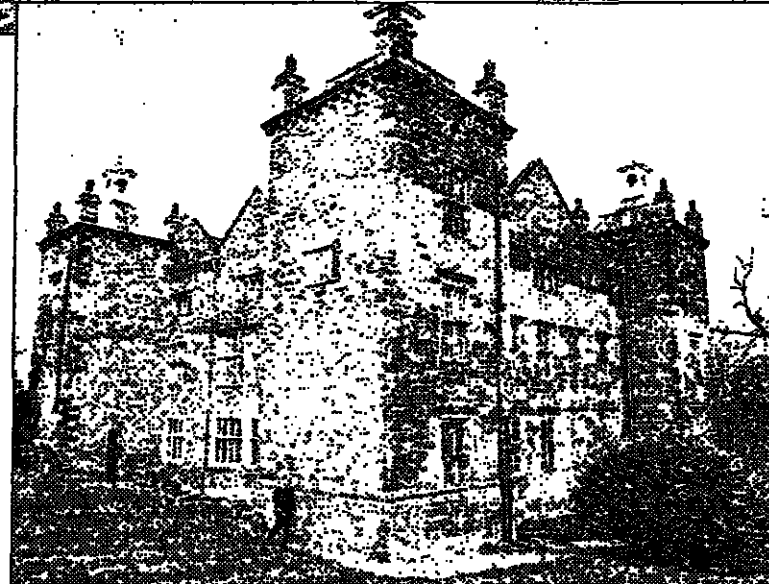
Since Cornelia Bayley took the

house over, she has restored the principal rooms to their original arrangement — which involved knocking down dividing walls, relaying floors and re-roofing the long gallery. Missing windows and doors have been convincingly replaced, discreet wiring and plumbing introduced, and a complete refurnishing undertaken. The results are delightful, and entirely without antiquarian pedantry.

The furniture is mostly Regency and Empire, but there is a bedroom lined in 17th-century Dutch panelling, an oak four-poster of 1627, Indian chairs and beds, crystal chandeliers, Aubusson carpets, and an extraordinary range of 19th-century bathroom fittings.

The result of this inspired eclecticism, and the pleasingly time-worn, faded air of the furnishings, is that the house feels as though it has been lived in and cherished continuously. And it feels like a house of 1610, with its stone-flagged great hall with a great chamber above, and at the top of the house the long gallery. The main staircase is original and very grand, five feet wide, massively built in oak, richly ornamented with strapwork.

Making their presence felt on the landing are a toucan, named after Mrs Bayley's understanding bank manager, and a pretty pair of toucanettes. These are just a small part of the Plas Teg menagerie. In the kitchen (restored to a Victorian appearance) are



A challenge: top, Cornelia Bayley with a canine member of the Plas Teg menagerie and, above, the exterior of the Jacobean mansion

10 fine parrots, some of them free-flying, and in the next room are three more pairs, all squawking and staring, adding exotic life and colour — and noise — to the environment. I also noted a pair of huge Great Danes, a cockatoo, a cat, a rabbit, and a flock of ducks in the garden. No wonder the place feels so lived in.

It is also lived in, so they say, by one or more ghosts. Many sightings have been reported, and Mrs Bayley is quite used to being woken by mysterious footsteps and bangings in the middle

of the night. She is as undaunted by this as by the more material difficulties she labours under. She opened Plas Teg to the public last April. It deserves to succeed, and if the visitors come, it will succeed. As a fascinating and quite unique experience in house visiting, I cannot recommend it too highly.

Plas Teg, Pontblyddyn, Mold (0352 771335) is on the A54, between Wrexham and Mold. Open 11am-5pm Mon to Sat; noon-5pm Sun. Adults £1.75, children and OAPs £1.

## OUTINGS

## Messing about in boats

**NATIONAL HIRE BOAT DAY:** A second opportunity to visit boats and boatyards throughout the country tomorrow to take trips, try out a variety of craft, and find out more about boating holidays. For information about your nearest open boatyard, phone Boatline (0632 845890).

**BYGONES EXHIBITION:** A wide range of items spanning several centuries, from agricultural implements to household artefacts, on display at this award-winning reconstruction of a Norman Motte and Bailey castle, Mountfitchet, Essex (0279 813237). Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £2.75, child £1.75.

**OTLEY HALL OPEN WEEKEND:** A opportunity to look over the agricultural college, learn more about courses, see crafts, gardening displays, livestock and a rare breed show. Otley Hall, Otley, Leicestershire (0473 85543). Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adults 50p, child free.

**SPALDING FLOWER PARADE:** Annual procession of magnificently decorated floral floats and marching band through the town. Spalding, Lincolnshire (information 0775 4843). Today from 1pm. Free.

**LIVERPOOL MAY HORSE PARADE:** Popular parade with decorated horses and carriages, entertainers, horse assembly Sefton Park 10am onwards. Parade to St George's Plateau from 12 noon, return Sefton Park approximately 1.30pm. Liverpool, Merseyside. Today. Free.

**KNUTSFORD ROYAL MAY DAY FESTIVAL:** Procession through streets, crowning the May Queen, maypole dancing, funfair and displays. The Heath, Knutsford, Cheshire. Information 0565 3074. Today, from 2pm. Free. Small admission charge to grandstand.

**COVENT GARDEN PUNCH AND JUDY FESTIVAL AND MAY FAIR:** Traditional children's entertainers and spectators. Grand Procession starts 10.30am followed by a special service in St Paul's Church, 11.30am. From noon, entertainment by many Punch and Judy artists in church gardens, and environs. St Paul's Church, Covent Garden, London WC2. Tomorrow from 10am. Free. Collections.

Judy Froshaug

## SHOPPING

## A way with jugs and rugs



Jane Willingale has made the move from pun-filled ceramics to colourful rugs

"Loudware" is an apt description of Jane Willingale's flamboyant hand-painted ceramics, on show at Endell Street Place, Covent Garden's collection of craft workshops until May 14. Visual puns and brilliant colours are the hallmarks of her work.

Now she is taking a new direction, collaborating with a textile designer, Barbara Mullarney-Wright, on a collection of hand-made, vibrantly-coloured rugs. Produced under the name Perfect Rug, the carpets range in price from £102 to £799. Many of the patterns are adapted from Mullarney-Wright's textile designs and Willingale's ceramics, others are drawn from life.

The show is succeeded by a small exhibition and sale of scarves, wraps, rugs and screens by De Winter, a partnership set up three years ago by the textile designers Tracey Corker and Nicola Thwaites.

Colourful ceramics by Jane Willingale: teapot, £57.75; pot with lid, £49.80; large jug, £37.50; small jug, £19.95. Inset: "Music" rug, £660, by Barbara Mullarney-Wright

This is their first London show and in it silks, cottons and satens are printed with peacocks, Doric columns, acanthus leaves and amphora, bearing out De Winter's aim to update classical motifs for modern homes.

## Nicole Swengley

Ceramics and rugs by Jane Willingale and Barbara Mullarney-Wright at Endell Street Place until May 14, followed by De Winter from May 15-28. Endell Street Place is at 27 Endell Street, London WC2 (01-240 1069).

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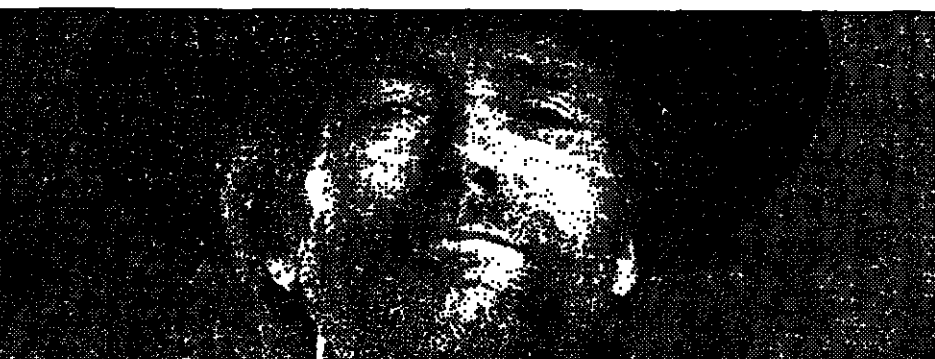
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## INGENUITY

### Round One

1. Bunbury's racehorse who went to America and founded a dynasty that included Lexington.
2. What is the desirable end-product of ilmenite and rutile concentrates?
3. Who made 81 orbits in a Vostok spaceship?
4. Early man associated with Monte Circeo, Amud, Shanidar, Spy and Le Moustier.
5. Plant-group whose sudden appearance was an 'abominable mystery' to Darwin.
6. Russian foreign minister who gave his name to a famous chestnut pudding.
7. Believing something you don't understand, according to Stevie Wonder.
8. Author whose work was being lampooned in a verse in which Charlotte "like a well-conducted person, went on cutting bread and butter".
9. Modern cathedral with a Sutherland tapestry.
10. Madrid's most famous public picture collection.

## INGENUITY

### Round Two

1. Very English composer who wrote: "This is the best of me" over his Dream-work.
2. Prize awarded to Seifert, Elytis and Marquez.
3. What quadrupeds are, or were: Sarah's Bunny, Laurie's Panther and Pagan Swallow?
4. Colour of an aniline dye discovered by Sir W.H. Perkin and named after a battle near Milan.
5. Insect that connects the Ant Lion and the buzzbomb.
6. Country whose Prime Minister was called Diefenbaker.
7. Rotund MFH who employed Benjamin, Betsy and James Pigg.
8. First name of the man who was succeeded by Ramiz Alia.
9. Lack of what, marks out Frank from Billy and Dusty in ZZ Top.
10. Planet often said to be red.

## INGENUITY

# True test of wits and wisdom

There are prizes worth more than £13,000 to be won in Ingenuity, our new game. Today — and for this week only — we are reprinting the first five rounds along with today's Round Six.

Today marks the end of the first week of our new general knowledge quiz Ingenuity, a competition being played over 18 days with 10 questions a day. The authors of the first six correct entries to be opened at the end of the competition will each receive a set of the 1988 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, in a blue filigree leather Constitution binding, worth £2,280.

We are repeating the first five rounds along with today's for readers who may have missed them. The answer to each question is a single word or name — but the number of letters in the answers do NOT correspond with the number of boxes — except for the longest of them in each round.

The questions have already generated considerable interest, with readers pooling resources and brainstorming to answer them. As Ann Men, who compiled the quiz, explained this week: "To answer the questions in this competition you've got to use not only your loaf but also your reference books. In each quiz there may be one or two things that you happen to know because of your own particular interests: but mostly you will have to ferret out the answers and look them up."

"The way to tackle these questions is to make an educated guess and then work backwards. Take the 'tallest question' — 'Once it was wood, now it is granite, and you can see its light 28km away.' What shows its light 28km away? It must be a

lighthouse, and an old one because it was once made of wood. In the lighthouse article in *Encyclopaedia Britannica* you'll find 'Henry Winstanley's 124-ft high wooden tower on the notorious Eddystone reef.' And it tells you it's now made of granite. It's easy to check on the distance of the beam: *Pears Encyclopaedia* or any good book on lighthouses will give it."

The quiz continues on Monday. Competitors should cut out one coupon per round and keep them until the end of the competition, when entry details will be given.

Lord Quinton is the present (not former) chairman of the board of the British Library (Spectrum, May 2).

## INGENUITY Round Three

1. Translator/poet buried at Boulogne on whose grave a Persian rose was planted.
2. British Prime Minister who was baptised at St Andrews, Holborn, in July 1817.
3. Number of horses to be seen in a Poussin in the Louvre, finished in 1664, that depicts Ruth and Boaz.
4. Fish about which Ted Ensome and Greville Fennell were especially expert.
5. Jean-Paul Sartre's organ-playing cousin, whose life-work was in Africa.
6. Lake in Lapland from which a wrecked, obsolescent cruise missile was recovered.
7. What the Shetlanders call a large, thieving seabird; also known as the Robber Bird.
8. Minor character in Shakespeare who was a principal character for the writer Mary Renault.
9. In which Shakespearean part did Ellen Terry make her debut at the age of nine?
10. What became the married name of Miss Mayson, who had lived in the Epsom Grandstand in the 1840s and became a famous cook?

## INGENUITY Round Four

1. Country of origin of the shirts associated with the Italian patriot who died on a Sardinian island.
2. Surname of the man who managed to leave La Santé by helicopter in 1986.
3. Spoof sci-fi film from which Nick, Roger, Andy and Simon took a name when they formed a pop group in the 1970s.
4. What Carl André used for the Tate's "Low Sculpture".
5. One of Zeus's girlfriends, whose father gave his name to Herschel's planet.
6. What, collectively, are Butchers, Coachmen and Professors?
7. Name of the vase, smashed in 1845, which was bought by the British Museum in 1945.
8. Cave in France found by four boys when looking for a lost dog.
9. Composer of the opera, set in America, in which the hero's hiding place is betrayed by a drop of his blood.
10. What can be Pommé, Potent, Fleury, or Voided and Couped?

## INGENUITY

### Round Five

1. Who became the husband of the central character in *Wide Sargasso Sea*, in another novel?
2. Disease seen for the last time in Somalia. Officially said to have been wiped out in 1977 and again in 1980.
3. What kind of huge fish did Richard Walker give to a zoo?
4. Order to which Dr Jules Guyot, Lord Derby and Josephine de Malines belong.
5. A swan that shares its name with a wood-engraver.
6. Much loved bear who celebrated a 21st birthday on television in the early 1970s.
7. What herring boxes became, for Clementine.
8. What do vessels from Derby, Chelsea and Bow share with other ships?
9. Country in which Shia Moslems have a religious community called "The Movement of Hope".
10. Panza's island-city, linked with *The Gondoliers*.

## INGENUITY

### Round Six

1. Composer rolled over by Mr Berry in 1956.
2. Battleground from which Pheidippides ran.
3. First entered the Saturnian magnetosphere on November 11 1980.
4. Ore from which the Curies first got radium.
5. Country to which the man who gave his name to the tobacco plant was ambassador.
6. Spring wild flower associated with Hughenden Manor in Buckinghamshire.
7. Gold and enamel belt that is won outright for defending three challenges, named after a Lord.
8. An introduced game bird with red legs, known as a Frenchman.
9. One word that associates Wing, Boot, Gold and Cap.
10. Has a knuckle-bow, lockets and a chape.

## GARDENING

CLARE ROBERTS

### Sowing inside out

This is the time of year when a gardener can suffer from over-eager sowing as seedlings crowd for attention. Ideally, tiny seedlings should be transplanted as soon as they are strong enough (after the first true leaves have appeared) into moist, multi-purpose compost in small pots or trays. Ease the seedlings out holding them by their leaves and not touching stem or roots. Gently firm the compost and water. Clever gardeners use a fine rose but it is easy to drown the plants; if in doubt give a prolonged mist-spray or use a small hoseplant watering can.

I've never found that seed-

lings suffer from being left a few days before pricking out, so long as they have enough moisture and are turned in good light to avoid legginess. They may need a little dilute liquid feed as they grow, and while they are hardening off prior to planting outside.

The plantlets appreciate a cold frame for a week or so to acclimatise, but a sheltered place in the garden will do, so long as they are covered or brought inside on sharp nights. When planting out, do not let them flop loosely, firm them into the soil. Initially, young plants appreciate the protection of a movable frame or cloche.

### GARDEN NEWS

- Young shoots and blooms, vulnerable to sudden frosts, can now be protected by means of a lightweight polypropylene fleece which allows in light and rain but insulates against frost. It is as suitable for fruit blossoms as for emerging potato shoots. A pack of Agri 2.2 metres x 7 metres is available from Hydrocort Limited, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 6HB.
- For the first time catalogues for the Chelsea Flower Show are available before opening day. Send £2.55 to PO Box 38, Ashford, Kent TN23 1YB by May 13.
- Some readers enquiring after conservatories, have had difficulty in obtaining the telephone number of Deryk Brown Joinery, Bourne, South Lincolnshire. It is 0778 425859.

### WEEKEND TIPS

- Earth up potato shoots (without delay, so long as there is a possibility of frost).
- Begin to sow runner beans in pots.
- Keep a close eye on broadbeans to tackle blackfly at the sign of infestation. This way you shall be able to cope using chemist's soft soap (or a proprietary brand such as Savona).
- Watch out for sawfly caterpillars, which eat Solomon's seal, gooseberries and currants. All are hungry beasts and should be picked off at once or leaves will be reduced to skeletons.
- Remove the forward blossoms of young strawberry plants, planted out this spring so they can become well established before starting to crop.

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# Fruit and flowers

It does seem an excess of bounty that trees which give us fruit in the summer and autumn should be so beautiful in spring and I am glad to see that people are planting fruit trees where they can be seen, rather than banishing them to an orchard or kitchen garden. In 1631 William Lawson advocated fruit growing "for unspeakable pleasure and infinite commodity" and he was more or less right.

The first froth of white blossom is the cherry, and Early Rivers is one of the first varieties to appear, sometimes in flower at Easter. If you plant it, make sure you have another early blossom (such as Waterloo or Merton Heart) to pollinate it, and keep them both sheltered. Most cherries do well on a south wall, but Early Rivers resents the cutting back entailed with fan-training. The young growth which comes after pruning is a beacon for aphids, though I would be inclined to place Early Rivers in a sheltered position in the garden and let it grow its own way - it will make a sizeable tree.

A more moderately sized cherry, Napoleon Bigrean,

Trees which provide a treat for the eyes as well as the taste buds are enjoying a resurgence, writes Francesca Greenoak

has pale foliage and a delicious white fruit ripening about July. However, the only one that will suit a smaller garden is the relatively new Stella on "Colt" rootstock (which restrains its growth). It is self-fertile so it does not require another variety as a pollen partner like all the other sweet cherries. All sweet cherries need sunshine, but in blossom, leaf and fruit a fan-trained Morello Cherry is a wonderful decoration for a large shaded wall. If you leave the fruits until they turn black they don't need cooking unless you prefer it, and can be served simply with a sprinkling of sugar and cream.

An apple arch with the trees trained up and overhead makes a pretty and fragrant place to walk. The trees are planted at the foot of the arch posts and trained as cordons or espaliers to climb and spread over the structure. The soft growth is tied in each year,

maturing into shape. Even a small archway, with two or three trees each side, makes an attractive sight but it must be composed of varieties which will blossom at about the same time and can pollinate each other. (There are pollination charts for all fruits in the RHS *The Fruit Garden Displayed*.)

Pears are perhaps the most beautiful open grown fruit trees, but many of the most delicious varieties will not ripen in chill southern localities and only in the most sheltered sunny spots in the colder north. The russet nutting Conference is a good all-rounder, but the exquisite Doyen de Comice or Beurre Superfin are only for mild, sunny areas or grown as espaliers on warm walls.

Similarly, while the sturdy damsons will stand up to harsh conditions, sweet delicate plums such as Coc's Golden Drop and the Gages must have sun and shelter.

The faithful Victoria plum is a joy to those in cooler climes - not only does it crop for us, it is self-fertile as a singleton and further, it will even spread happily over a north facing wall.

This is not the time of year to plant fruit trees but with the gardens open season beginning with an early display of blossom, it is worth paying a visit to some of those which have fruit trees on walls, in orchards or as special features. The National Trust has several gardens with fruit specialities, some with local or historic varieties. Felbrigg Hall, north of Norwich, has the old apples, Norfolk Beefing, Court Pendu Plat and the russet D'Arcy Spice among others in its orchard collection. See northern varieties at Acorn Bank, (near Penrith) in Cumbria. Old Cornish apples at a new orchard at Gledrangan (near Falmouth) and a range of fruit at Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire. There are old pear archways at Benningbrough Hall, Yorkshire. Full details of addresses and admission from the National Trust handbook (from bookshops and NT shops, £2.25/free to members).





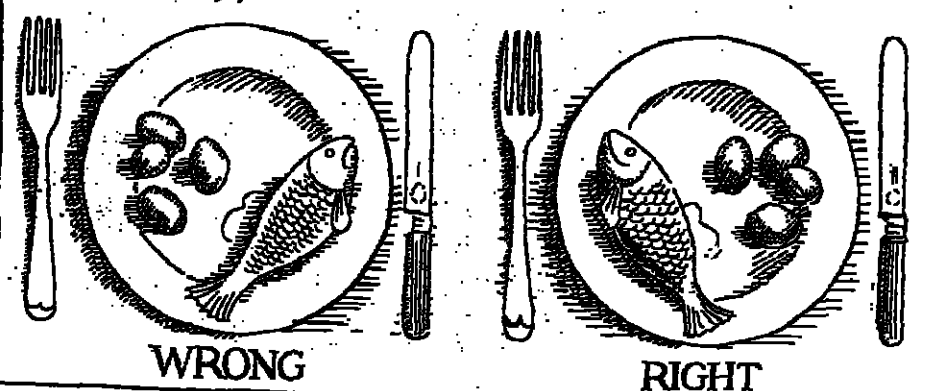


## EATING OUT

SOME DESIGN RULES FOR RESTAURANTS

FRANCIS MOSLEY

## 1. The placing of potatoes



## Roaming in white kidney country

Offal offends British sensibilities, but Jonathan Meades enjoyed one unusual variety at a Lebanese restaurant

The testicles of beasts are known in France as *rognons blancs*, which is an apt enough sobriquet for they do possess a faintly renal flavour. In Spain *crispidillas* are greatly prized. In Brussels *les valseses* are an essential constituent of that city's classic dish *choucroute*. The *fritto* of northern Italy often includes this species of offal.

It's a familiar story this, one of British puritanism, squeamishness and wastefulness. Unlike, however, the British antipathy to tripe I did not think it worth bothering to try to correct until I went last week to Al-Safer, a Lebanese establishment recently opened in St John's Wood.

The testicles I'd previously eaten in London, also in Lebanese establishments, had been disappointing in their blandness; the game by which I judge the things is some I ate in the tiny and operatic Spanish province of Ceuta, which faces Algeiras across the Straits of Gibraltar. They had been marvellously cooked in the crispest of batters — of course, that was a while ago and the memory plays all sorts of tricks on the tongue. These at Al-Safer seem, though, to corroborate the probity of my memory: they, too, are fried in light, crisp batter; they are well flavoured; they have a texture that is smooth rather than faintly granular.

It is as well that they have so fine a flavour for they are served, like much Lebanese food, unadorned. Maybe this lack of spicing is peculiar to London Lebanese restaurants — but I doubt it for they are mostly populated by a Middle Eastern clientele, so one can assume that the cooking is a more or less accurate representation of the native stuff.

The meat at this large place is predictably composed of numerous enticing starters and a selection of less enticing main courses, most of which are kebabs of one sort or another — some of these kebabs are of minced lamb mixed with wheat, a combination that might appeal to anyone with a taste for bread-filled bangers. I stuck to the

starters which included, as well as lamb's testicles, lamb's brains; these were not notable, they had not been sufficiently blanched and still bore traces of blood. The puréed aubergine dish, *motabbel*, is commendably prepared here and so is the salad of yoghurt and cucumber. The "pasties" called *sambousek*, filled with minced meat, pine nuts and onion, are pretty good and so is the yoghurt-based drink, *dast*.

The lunchtime I ate there I was the lone customer; a few friends of the house hung about between the bar and the kitchen, and it was difficult not to feel like an intruder. The place is done out in the style which is known as *Louie Farouk*; there are a couple of bookshelves and many — far too many — paintings from, apparently, the railings of Hyde Park on a Sunday. For a meal that would have just about done for two people, I paid £19.75. Two could eat copiously for about £26.

From *rognons blancs* to the real thing — veal kidney. I went to Imigo Jones in Covent Garden in the company of a nephrologist; I suppose I should say an eminent nephrologist, since all doctors referred to in print are eminent. This party demonstrated his claim to eminence by seizing on the kidney I had just been served and announcing: "That animal died in a state of shock. It was almost certainly exsanguinated." Had the calf in question been put to death by stunning there would, apparently, have been less of a chromatic contrast between the medulla, the centre of the kidney that was congested with blood, and the cortex, which was a *café au lait* shade.

It tasted very good indeed — the animal had not been murdered in vain. The kidney sat on a particularly savoury potato palette with a few baby broad beans that had been, needlessly, halved. On a recent television programme the chef of Imigo Jones, Paul Gayler, talked for half an hour about the preparation of his celebrated vegetarian menu.

He was workmanlike, painstaking and rather lacking in passion until he recounted the arguments he has with Anton Mossman about whether potatoes should go on the right or left of the plate.

My heart sank as I listened to him, for his preoccupation with the visual seemed to be peripheral to the notion of proper food. So it's pleasant to be able to report that most of Gayler's creations taste right, which is the important thing. They are rather artfully turned out but it's not at the cost of flavour, or flavours. Roe — too rarely encountered in serious restaurants — is twisted like a coiled and served in a rich *faisselle* with a no less rich lemon butter sauce. Wood pigeon is flavoured across the plate on top of red cabbage. The former was a better dish than the latter, which erred a bit too much on the side of gaminess and had a sauce which was also on the strong side.

The selection of breads here is worth noting, and the *pain de campagne* is especially delicious. As one might expect, the vegetables are out of the ordinary — the carrots really should be tried by those who've tried this root. There is an adequate selection of cheeses, through perhaps not of last year's standard — is this a ferry-related lapse?

With two aperitifs (including an ill-made and watery martini served in a preposterous glass), a sound bottle of the Provencal Ch. Vignolles (which at £16 is in the lower reaches of the list), two bottles of fizzy water and two glasses of sticky wine the bill, including a 15 per cent tip, was £85 — which means that Imigo Jones is not to be too lightly undertaken. But since the place is used, at lunch anyway, by suited men who refer to each other as "colleagues" I'm sure no one is worrying too much.

AL-SAFER, 3 Circus Rd, St John's Wood, London NW8 (01-589 9182/3) noon — midnight every day

IMIGO JONES, 14 Garrick St, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-836 8456/3223) noon-2.30pm and 5.30-11.30pm Mon to Fri, 5.30-11.30pm Sat

## THE TIMES COOK

Make the most of new-season produce for light but warming food, Frances Bissell writes

## How to handle spring

DIANA LEADBETTER

Do not be misled into thinking that May means salads, ice-creams and cold dishes. A chill wind was still around when I began to think about today's recipes, and it reminded me that casseroles have their place in spring cooking.

I am not suggesting rich, sticky, slow-cooking dishes but something lighter and more quickly cooked. There are plenty of spring vegetables coming into the shops: young carrots, turnips, courgettes, peas, baby corn from Thailand, asparagus and spring onions. These will combine beautifully with some tender new season's lamb. Shoulder or the more expensive fillet are both suitable for cooking this way. It is the sort of recipe for which you can shop on your way home. Put it on to cook, and it will be ready to serve about 1½ hours later as a main course for a simple, impromptu dinner party.

To keep the dish light, I cook it in white wine rather than red and find that Sauvignon Blanc is particularly good when combined with plenty of herbs. The same wine, perhaps a Sauvignon de St Bris, makes a nice change from claret to drink with the lamb. You need to use plenty of herbs for their flavour and for their colour, which will enliven a rather pale dish. Basil, chervil, tarragon or parsley are preferable to the stronger thyme and rosemary.

You need not use the vegetables I have chosen, but make sure they look good and fresh, and include plenty of green. For an even simpler one-pot meal, put some small scrubbed new potatoes in with the meat and vegetables. For a starter, a simple green salad dressed with the best olive oil and wine vinegar would be perfect. For a more unusual yet inexpensive dish, I recommend this warm salad of fresh mackerel. The cucumber is lightly fried, which greatly enhances its flavour and texture. Initial preparation should be done an hour or so before final cooking.

**Warm mackerel and cucumber salad (Serves 4)**

1 cucumber  
1 lb/455 g mackerel fillets, prepared weight  
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard  
½ pint/70ml apple juice  
1 small onion, thinly sliced  
6 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
4oz/110g washed and dried salad leaves  
salt, pepper

Cut the cucumber in half lengthways, and scoop out the seeds. Slice it very thinly using a mandolin or the slicing disc of a food processor. Place the slices in a colander or sieve, sprinkle with a little salt, and leave to drain for an hour. Meanwhile, prepare the fish. Remove any bones with tweezers, and cut the fillets into neat oblique slices about 1½/2.5cm wide. Mix the mustard



and apple juice and pour into a shallow dish. Peel and thinly slice the onion, place it in the dish and lay the fish on top, skin side up. Press well down, so that the fish is in contact with the onions and the marinade. Leave for an hour.

Rinse and dry the cucumber thoroughly. Fry it in a tablespoon of olive oil for a couple of minutes until it wilts and the colour brightens. Put it to one side. Remove the mackerel from the marinade, and pat it dry on kitchen paper. Fry in a little more olive oil for a minute or two on each side. Arrange the salad leaves on four plates. Spoon the cucumber into the centre and arrange the pieces of mackerel around it. Add the rest of the oil and a couple of tablespoons of the marinade to the frying pan. Add a pinch of salt and pepper, bring to the boil and pour it over the salad. Fresh dill, coriander or chervil can be used to decorate and flavour.

**Spring lamb and vegetable casserole (Serves 4)**

1½lb/680g boned lamb  
1 medium onion  
garlic, optional and to taste  
6 small carrots  
¾ pint/430ml Sauvignon Blanc  
8 small or 4 medium courgettes

4 asparagus stalks  
8 spring onions  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil or parsley  
salt, pepper

Remove any gristle and as much fat as possible from the lamb, and cut it into 1½/2.5cm cubes. Peel and thinly slice the onion. In a non-stick or well-seasoned frying pan brown the meat all over and transfer it to a casserole. Fry the onion until lightly brown and put with the meat. Add the peeled and crushed garlic, if you are using it, and the carrots, peeled and left whole or cut into batons, depending on their size. Pour the wine into the frying pan, bring it to the boil, scraping up any residue, and pour it over the meat and vegetables.

Cover and simmer it on a low heat for about an hour. After half an hour, add the rest of the vegetables, peeled, trimmed and cut up as appropriate, and half the herbs. When the meat and vegetables are tender, you may find that the stew is too liquid for you. Drain the cooking juices off into a small saucepan, boil up and reduce to the required amount. Pour it back into the casserole with the rest of the herbs and season to taste.

Bulgour wheat (also known as porgouri, cracked wheat

and burghul) is an unusual, delicious accompaniment to casseroles, and is quickly cooked.

**Bulgour wheat (Serves 4)**

1 small onion  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
6oz/170g bulgour wheat  
6oz/170ml water or stock

Gently heat the marmalade, and strain it into a bowl. Stir in the double cream or custard, allow to cool, and pour it into a freezer-proof container, and place it in the freezer or ice-making compartment of the refrigerator. As the mixture begins to freeze, stir the sides to the middle to break up the ice crystals. Do this at least twice and then for the last stirring, break up the by now almost frozen mixture, and put it in a food processor. Process for half a minute or so which will give the mixture almost as smooth and light a texture as if you had made the electric ice-cream machine. Refreeze the mixture and when ready to serve it, make sure you ripen it off in the refrigerator for half an hour or so. It should not be rock solid.

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## DRINK

## A competitive edge

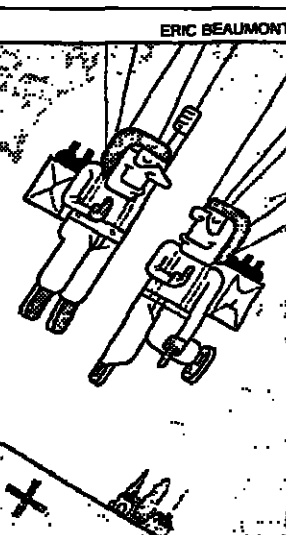
The battle for Australian wine sales is intensifying. Sainsbury's is now claiming that it expects to become the largest importer of Australian wines into the UK. But it just so happens that at the moment Oddbins is the largest retailer of Australian wine in the country. Last year this enterprising wine chain sold a staggering 116,000 cases of Australian wine, compared with 5,000 the year before.

Oddbins' phenomenal Australian success has clearly rattled Sainsbury's — so much so that two of its wine buyers went on a special "buying, educational and PR visit to Australia" earlier this year.

Sainsbury's may have failed so far to tie up such a handsome deal as Oddbins did with Penfolds and Hill-Smith last year but its wine buyers' trip is already bearing some fine Australian fruit. The 1983 Wyndham Estate Bin 937 Cabernet Sauvignon (£3.65, available in 80 larger stores) from the Hunter Valley, north of Sydney, may not be as keenly priced as many of the Oddbins offerings but, with its full purple colour and luscious rich blackcurrant taste, it is so delicious and such good value that I cannot see anyone complaining.

Brian McGuigan, Wyndham Estate's wine maker, feels that his '83 Bin 937 has "celebrating potential until 1993". Given this Cabernet's seductive flavours, I doubt whether any of Sainsbury's customers should, or would, want to wait that long. Sainsbury's tells me that this wine will be out of stock for a short period of time in May, so make certain you get your allocation now.

**Jane MacQuitty on the behind-the-scenes battle going on between high street buyers for the best Australian wines**



Meanwhile, Oddbins' buyers have sniffed out yet more delectable Australian wines. Tollana, based in the Barossa Valley, is not well-known here but it was taken over last year by Penfolds, so no doubt we shall soon see more of its wines on Oddbins' shelves. Tollana's '82 Cabernet Sauvignon-Shiraz blend (£3.99) is not dissimilar to the Wyndham wine, and I loved its lively, fruitily scented and glorious ripe, multi-layered, cassia-laden palate. It is also one of the best Cabernet-Shiraz wines I have tasted, for this distinctly Australian blend generally pro-

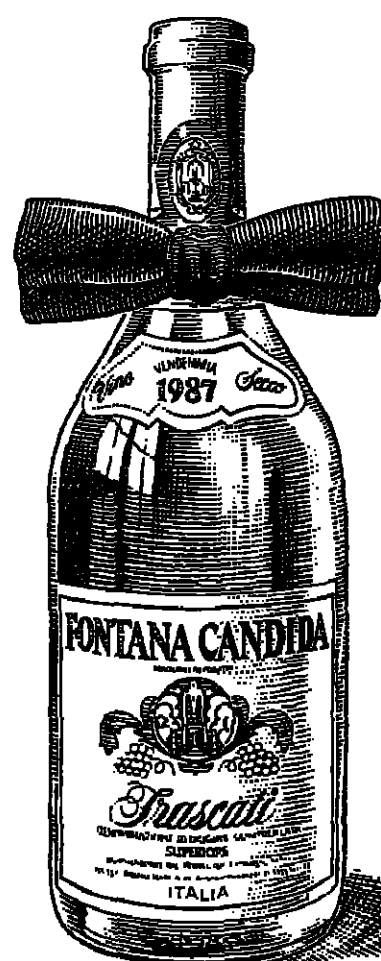
duces robust, earthy Shiraz-dominated wines that which lack the blackcurrant finesse of the Cabernet grape. Tollana's edition is a happy exception.

This summer's cheapest and most delicious sweet white is likely to be Tolley's wondrous '87 Late Picked Muscat, at Oddbins for just £2.99 a bottle. Blessed with a pale straw colour and delicate rose petal scent plus a light, non-cloying, softly sweet palate that again reminded me of roses, Tolley's Muscat, from an old-fashioned family owned Adelaide-based firm, is a joy.

Competition was also in the air at Majestic Wine Warehouses' latest tasting. Its chief buyer casually let slip that his rich, grassy, bricky '83 Tourneau-Chollet claret from the Graves was £1 cheaper, priced at £3.99, than Sainsbury's poorer '84 vintage from the same chateau. If you visit Majestic for this claret, make certain you also buy its new sparkling, the '83 Crémant de la Loire, from the Vignerons de Saumur co-operative. Made exclusively from the Chenin Blanc grape, it has a fresh, crisp, apple fragrance and pleasing, green, apple-like taste. Made exclusively from the Chenin Blanc grape, it is streets ahead of most Loire fizz.

Being the first to ship and sell a *vin nouveau* is another hard-fought wine trade contest. The best, and I think the first, of the 1988 crop is Australia's Early Bird pair from Hardy's, whose fresh, zesty, citric-like '88 white (Oddbins, £3.75) and lively blackberry-like '88 red (Victoria Wine stocks both, £3.79) were well worth the trouble.

When you want a wine that's so cool and fragrant it can turn a meal into something special... ...Fontana Candida is the right white.



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## THE ARTS

## Tribute that drowned in mush

"Manhattan was a hell's kitchen, a bubbling, babbling, stewpot of racial diversity." It was showtime again as *Omnibus* (BBC1) opened a new series with a song and dance tribute to Irving Berlin.

As is customary with the tinkling trips down memory lane, history was rewritten as alliterative links to be delivered with smug Broadway brio; or, when the glutinous smiles of nostalgia came unstruck with the intrusion of less savoury episodes such as the Depression, with a look of seriousness for a moment staged behind a designer-stubble and hobo hat.

This homage to the "King of Ragtime" was not, however, blind to others, such as Scott Joplin who developed if not popularized that musical movement. The greatest

## TELEVISION

limitation of the programme was its lack of Irving Berlin. The absence of the recluse contentarian himself was no great surprise, the absence of so much of his music, unless you had read the small print in the *Radio Times*, was.

Alexander, of course, played with his Ragtime Band, we had another cup of coffee and another piece of pie, hated getting up in the morning, were haunted like a melody by a pretty girl — indeed were played simple melody after simple melody, some of which had not even been written by Berlin who worked only as a lyricist for many of his early songs. But when we got with eager expectation to Berlin in Hollywood, the rest, for reasons of song rights no doubt, was suddenly history — unlinked silent history.

We might have missed the later numbers less if there had not been so much dated dress and the early glitters. Some of the lines, particularly in the more emotional songs, made one even welcome the links: "When they came over here they were all immigrants — so were their cousins and uncles and their aunts".

*Secret Services* (BBC2) with *The Prostitutes* gave us two happy, not to say proud, hookers. One, visually an uneasy bespectacled cross between Cleopatra and the younger Mrs Whitehouse, was articulate and intelligent beyond the call of even her diplomatically delicate duties.

Andrew Hislop

## The seal of approval



For more than 60 years *The New Yorker* magazine has been making its readers laugh. Mark Law looks at its cartoon tradition featuring in an exhibition which opens in London next week

"One lyrical landscape— heavy on the Wyeth, light on the Expressionism."

A couple are lying in bed. She is saying, she with the lank hair and angry gimlet eyes. "All right have it your way — you heard a seal bark!" Unseen above them, lolling over the bedhead, is a seal.

The lumpiness of the couple and exquisite insouciance on the face of the animal are caught in a drawing which seems hurried and casual; but it combines with its caption in awe-inspiring precision to make the belly shake. The reason that one laughs defies explanation, not because there is no explanation, but because it fights as soon as it is exposed to the light of one. One does not attempt to explain it any more than one would try to capture a butterfly with a hammer.

This classic cartoon by James Thurber appeared in 1932 in *The New Yorker*, the weekly magazine which, since its founding in 1925, has had only three editors and has remained an unchanging temple of urbane and sophisticated wit. A 60 year retrospective of its art featuring some 100 covers and cartoons opens next week at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The *New Yorker* has been the home of a gallery of famous

writers from A.J. Liebling and Dorothy Parker to Truman Capote and John Updike and such artists as Saul Steinberg, Ronald Searle and the doyen of the art of darkness, Charles Adams. His originals can command \$3,000; he still contributes to the magazine and has an office there filled with morbid clutter to which he commutes when he is not shooting swamp rats from the window of his country home in somewhere called Sagaponack.

While Adams and the occupants of that dank and sinister clapperboard mansion stepped from the magazine's pages into their own television series and great fame, most of *The New Yorker's* regulars remain little known, their identities protected by the illegibility of their signatures.

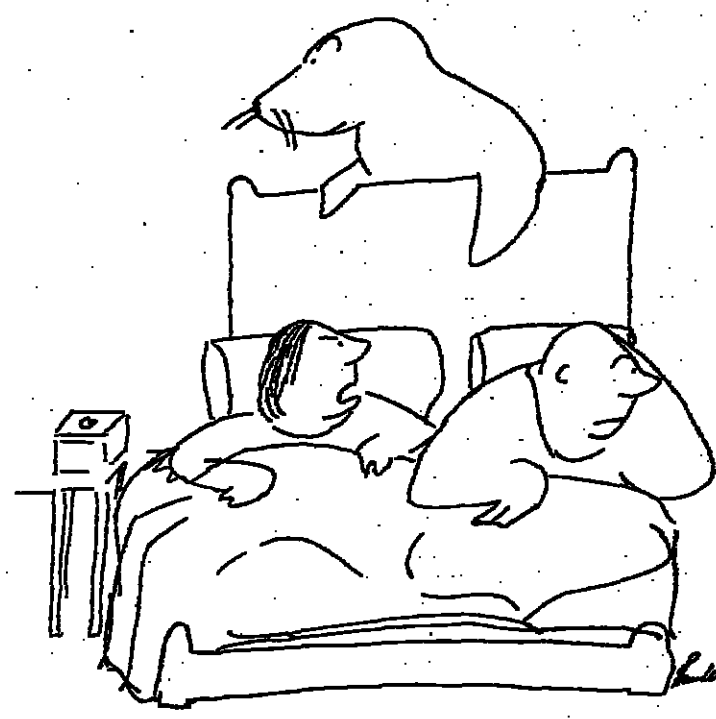
But today's successors to Rea Irvin (the first art director and creator of the Regency dandy which featured on the first cover and still appears in every issue) offer a rich circus of characters, drawing styles and attitudes.

There are the softly smirking creatures of J.J. Sempé and Edward Koren's beaky, furry humans, guessed to owe not a little to the Vermont liberal academics among whom he lives. Charles

Saxon's well-to-do Connecticut suburbanites who say things to each other like "Remember how we used to look in the window driving by? Now here we are — the people at the Klippers party." There is George Booth, whose derelict country couples live in epic squalor surrounded by irascible arthritic dogs, and there are George Price's eccentric pensioners: "Do you want beer with your pig's knuckles, or will you meet them head on?"

Some of the captions are almost capable of independent life, but the stylish individuality of the drawings makes even the richest of them glow more brightly — as with J.B. Handelsman's personnel executive reading the application of a keen-eyed hopeful: "I see you've flown around the world in a plane, and settled revolutions in Spain. Around a golf you're under par. Metro Goldwyn has asked you to star. Very impressive, I must admit, but we're looking for someone with marketing experience."

To be published by *The New Yorker* is the ambition of almost every cartoonist, which is why Lee Lorenz, art director of the magazine for 15 years, receives about 3,000 drawings each week. Lorenz,



"All right, have it your way — you heard a seal bark!"

himself a regular contributor often portraying ferociously eyebrowed tycoons doing battle in the corporate snakepit, sees them all. "I think that's important. Other people might screen out anything that's different and that's what we're always looking for."

It is this search for the different that has nurtured newcomers like Roz Chast with her eerie childlike diagrams. ("How does she know they're cartoons?" was the astonished reaction of *New Yorker* editor Robert Gottlieb when he saw her work for the first time.)

This daunting avalanche of mirth is reduced to some 50 drawings which Lorenz takes to Gottlieb for the final selection of around 25. Of these, most will be from the 40 or so special artists with whom *The New Yorker* has a first-refusal agreement. Some of them send in as many as 15 drawings a week and are usually in the form of a rough sketch.

Lorenz discusses each of the chosen drawings with the artist. "I'd perhaps suggest a change in the situation of a drawing — maybe moving it from a bar to a home, perhaps a change in the emphasis or the caption to bring it into focus. But these are only

suggestions. One is trying to guide the drawing to its final form without it losing its original energy." He says he cannot describe what it is that makes a *New Yorker* cartoon. "The artists define it themselves. When we bring in new talent, they redefine it."

Sixty years of Gotham's sidewalk, lonely drinkers in empty bars, Manhattan soirées, and al fresco luncheon parties in Nantucket pose the hazard of repetition. Before acceptance, the week's drawings are taken to the library to be checked against the ledgers in which every single cartoon is elaborately indexed and cross-referenced.

Under A and again under E, for instance, lies Lee Lorenz's classic linking of two stalwart clichés in which a couple of alligators converse in the mark of a sewer. Remarks one: "Like so many New Yorkers, I have lived here all my life and never been to the top of the Empire State Building." Repetition would be impossible as well as improbable. The seal only barks once.

The Art of The New Yorker — A Sixty Year Retrospective opens at the Victoria and Albert Museum on May 11 until June 26

## Virtuoso on disc and in concert

EBS/Gardiner  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

There are cynics in the music business who maintain that the only great recording artists are great recording engineers, so often are the latter required to turn moderate performers into virtuosos by deft mixing and splicing.

That may be too cynical for you or I to believe. Nevertheless, now that the American pianist Malcolm Bilson's memorable recorded cycle of the Mozart piano concertos is nearing completion, one was glad to test whether his interpretations sound as convincing in the concert hall as they do on disc.

## CONCERT

The crucial question here is not the character of the fortepiano, so much as its relationship to the orchestra. In this performance of the B flat Concerto, K595, the balance was admirable: not a note of the solo part was covered. Even Bilson's historically accurate "continuo" to the orchestral expositions made its mark.

Yet in the first movement the rapport between the soloist and the English Baroque Soloists, under John Eliot Gardiner, sometimes sounded far from telepathic. The woodwind responses, in particular, were sluggish and penny-plain in nuance.

Both soloist and orchestra demonstrated a far more ambitious variety of timbre in the slow movement, and the finale was kept in much tighter harness. The EBS went on to give a gutsy account of Mozart's Symphony No 38.

But if these interpretations were less vivid than the Haydn Sonata (in E flat, his last) which began the concert, it is perhaps because Bilson interpreted Haydn's opening movement in such a remarkable way: emphasizing the audacious harmonic sidesteps and quirky structure by some equally bold metrical elongations and breaking up the flow with vivid, self-contained cameos. In the scintillating Presto finale he was more straightforwardly virtuosic: a free spirit blown by the wind, or rather a hurricane.

Richard Morrison

## Avoiding dreams of defeat

Moon on a Rainbow  
Shaw  
Almeida

## THEATRE



Pointing the finger: Ellen Thomas (left), and Claire Benedict

Radio City Music Hall walkdown: Charlie, the errant husband, rolls in after a night on the run; the lecherous old landlord (Ram John Holder) comes sniffing after Ephraim's girl friend.

Meanwhile Sophia (the indomitable Claire Benedict) cooks away on her verandah stove, observing everything and periodically falling

on some offender like a ton of bricks. The playing is perfectly focused, leading the eye to what needs to be seen and deftly stilling the atmosphere for those passages where characters confide past misadventures and surviving hopes. A generous show that touches the heart.

Irving Wardle

## Foul fury across the Mersey

Alpha Beta  
Man in the Moon

In the Sixties, when for a time Liverpool was regarded as the creative heart of Britain, nay, of the whole Beatles-smitten world, Ted Whitehead stepped forward to offer a harsher picture of what the place actually created.

On one hand four mop-haired Scousers told us all we needed was Love, but on the other Whitehead's tormented characters demonstrated that if you were Scouse working class you were far more likely to grow up terrified and contemptuous of women, unless you were a Scouse girl when you could take your pick of qualities from foot-mouthed, stutish or rancorously puritanical.

No surprise that the Beatles' dreams of love captured the market, but Whitehead's nightmare of a marriage in *Alpha Beta* estab-

lished itself as the angry (and one-sided) alternative view.

There are only two characters, husband and wife shackled to each other within their hate-filled marriage. Upstairs are the children, unseen and unheard though every time their parents meet downstairs marital resentments explode into screams and overturning furniture.

We meet this unhappy couple on three occasions over nine years. He wants freedom, honesty and a life with a girl he loves; she stops all three. The child's bikes grow bigger over the years, the coffee he refuses to make for her in Act One

he makes in Act Three. By this time, however, she has arrived at a state of catatonia.

The play's misogyny was always its glaring weakness, but more damaging now is the thin and old-fashioned treatment of the material. One of Whitehead's points is the repetitiousness of quarrels — "You say alpha, I say beta. The dance of the dead language!" This is neatly put but, marooned as the couple are in a play that supplies no external validation, the repetitions come to seem forced.

Jeremy Kingston

**GLYNDEBOURNE**  
Festival Opera  
WITH THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC  
16 MAY — 18 AUGUST 1988  
DIE ENTZÜHRUNG AUS DEM STRAHL  
FAUST  
KATIA Kabanova RAVEL DOUBLE BILL  
THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE SOVIET UNION  
June 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26  
Tickets at £22.50 all performances and a few at £12.50 on June 8 and 15  
Box Office: Glynedbourne, Lewes, Sussex BN8 5UU  
Tel: (0273) 54111

**THE MAGIC FLUTE**  
May 9, 12\*, 18, 20, 24, 28 at 7.00  
\* Royal Gala performance  
"Hurrah for Nicholas Hytner... this is by far the most successful staging seen in this country in the past twenty years" *Daily Mail*  
"With his designer Bob Crowley, Nicholas Hytner... has devised a Magic Flute combining charm and comedy" *Evening Standard*  
"Funny... delightful, wondrous in its moments of spectacle, charming and touching..." *Financial Times*  
"Don't miss it!" *Evening Standard*  
Cast includes: Helen Field, Nicholas Folwell, Nan Christie/Maria Bovino (May 18, 20), Thomas Randle, John Connell, Richard Van Allan, Rodney Macann (May 18, 20, 24, 28), Janis Kelly, Alexander Oliver  
Conductor James Holmes  
Producer Nicholas Hytner  
Designer Bob Crowley  
Lighting Nick Chelton  
Translation Jeremy Sams  
English National Opera  
London Coliseum  
51 Martin's Lane  
London WC2N 4ES  
Box Office 01-834 3161  
Credit cards 01-240 5258  
Sponsored by Hill Samuel Group plc

## Life at its blackest

Slipping Into  
Darkness  
Gate

The set designed by Zara Conway for this exhilarating one-man dramatic poem allows Calvin Simpson, the magnetic solo performer, to be constantly slipping from one place to another, clutching at doors which will not open, beating menacingly against walls.

He is not just physically mobile: his tone moves from self-mockery to political satire to prophesy to vulnerable pleading, matching the changing rhythms of Jamal Ali's splendid text and meeting the various challenges of its journey through an infernal London dubbed Giro City.

Simpson's character is a black urban poet called Clifford Adolphus Agard who would much rather have an African name. He is concerned with giving things their proper names, starting with what it means to be black. He re-enacts street scenes of violence, drug-taking and dangerous sex.

Black poetic drama has found a voice of its own, one richly alive to the fears and possibilities of living in "this rainbow city of tense minds". It also has an interpreter of thrilling range and power in Calvin Simpson. Such riches should not long be confined in a little room.

Harry Eyres

The Royal Opera  
Jon Vickers  
Peter Grimes  
May 17, 21; June 1, 4, 9, 11  
at 7.30pm  
Cast also includes Josephine Barston & Victor Braun  
Conductor John Barker  
Producer Robert Alton  
Designer \*Timothy (Vibron) Ingham  
01-240 1066 • Tickets £2-£55  
500 tickets at each of these performances  
cost £8 or less



## REVIEW

## A child at war

## PAPERBACKS

Empire of the Sun, by J.G. Ballard (Corgi, £2.95)

In the chaos of the Japanese invasion of Shanghai shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, 11-year-old Jim is separated from his parents. Alone in "that terrible city", he cheats starvation for weeks by stealing stale cocktail biscuits and olives from deserted houses, but is soon — inevitably — captured. He survives the terrible Langhwa prison camp through calculating pragmatism, cultivating the good will of those useful to him and not letting anyone weak become reliant on him.

In a radical departure from science fiction, J.G. Ballard draws on his wartime experiences in this searing novel of World War II; another excellent novel in that most distinguished category of "Booker Prize runner-ups". The world at war seen through

the eyes of a child is like a brutal, surreal film. Happily playing one minute with model aeroplanes in a comfortable Camberley-in-the-Orient set-up, Jim adapts with horrifying ease to the dirt, hunger, stench, and death of war. Life is a new game of survival, and he is unfurling: he eats weevils for protein, steals for extra rations, admires the enemy's bravery, and conjugates Latin verbs to pass the time.

It is a chilling statement of man's single-minded, indomitable will to survive; for Jim's experience is utterly devoid of emotional response. He misses his parents only because everyone else still has theirs. There is not a faint whiff of nostalgia for the good old ways because he is getting by without them. When the war ends, he is reunited with his parents, but it is Langhwa camp that he — so poignantly — views as home.

Sarah Edworthy

## NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

## FICTION

A Sport and a Pastime, by James Salter (Picador, £3.95) Erotic and romantic love story in bourgeois France between a village shop-girl and a Yale drop-out.

A Woman of the Pharos, by François Mauriac, translated by Gerard Hopkins (Penguin Modern Classics, £3.95) Devout Bordeaux matron shown, as the story of her life unfolds, to use her piety as a cover for her true nature.

Guilty Knowledge, by Lesley Grant-Adamson (Faber, £3.50) Gossip columnist discovers murder on the French Riviera. The Rat, by Ginter Grass, translated by Ralph Manheim (Picador, £3.95) Rat's eye view of the world, with chilling ecological premonitions for our poisoned future, and sundry old friends and fireworks from Grass's previous books.

## NON-FICTION

North-East England, by Brian Spencer (Oxfordshire and Berkshire, by Richard Lathbridge (New Shell Guides, £3.95). The Americans, the Colonial Experience, by Daniel J. Boorstin (Carroll, £4.99) Vol. 1 of 3, as the Pilgrim Fathers set foot on the New World, and the early years of his panoramic history.

The Making of Italy 1796-1866, by Denis Mack Smith (Macmillan, £9.95) The best and definitive modern history. The Newest London Spy, edited by Tim Heald (Muller, £7.95) Alternative guide to the bits that get left out of boring guide books, in the footsteps of Ned Ward, the first London Spy.

William and Mary, by Henri and Barbara van der Zee (Penguin, £5.95) History for the Glorious 300th anniversary.



## Feminist fantasies

In the Chinks of the World Machine, by Sarah Lefanu (Women's Press, £5.95)



Until the last two decades science fiction was traditionally chauvinist terrain; women were passive damsels in extra-terrestrial distress, men were the protagonists and rescuers. Sarah Lefanu's book analyses the recent wave of feminist science-fiction. Sci-fi, she says, has proved to be the "perfect medium" for the expression of feminist ideas. This is partly because it is not a realist mode. A work of science-fiction is like an updated Gothic novel: anything can happen, with technology in place of the supernatural. These sci-fi novels (not a genre for faint-hearted feminists) are not set in patriarchal real life, but in feminist fantasy world.

Lefanu discusses the utopias imagined by these writers, the kind of heroines they create, and shows, novel by novel, how they dramatize feminist ideas. Marge Piercy's *Woman on the Edge of Time*, for example, shows women no longer reproducing; babies gestate in tanks instead. Lefanu notes approvingly that Piercy deals with "the inevitably oppressive relationship between mother and child in a traditional nuclear family, the freeing of sexuality from its narrow expression in genital sex". (Heaven knows what the last sentence is about.)

Lefanu's interpretations are immensely crude. Her critical tools consist of a set of assumptions. Piercy's novel is good because it views the traditional mother-child bond as oppressive, and the maternal impulse as a social construct. Lefanu's tone is that of a hockey mistress who eggs on her own team (the writer) when they

score a goal (agree with her) and tut-tut when they do not.

This book smells of orthodoxy, of petty, mediocre bureaucracy. Every sentiment of the author's is predictable; nothing is fresh. Art is put in the service of the orthodoxy, like a horse before a cart. Thus she ticks off the categories of oppression one by one, like an accountant listing perils: "The heroines challenge the science fictional norm of a hero by being Black as well as female and sexually autonomous." This attitude gives a deadening kick to art on the left, reducing it to stale, complacent agitprop.

And the hapless reader is saddled with the author's orthodoxy, that men are bad, women good, and a manless world is a utopia. Although men have abused power throughout history these are stupid inferences, damaging to the intelligent part of the feminist

movement. They are also anti-individual, anti-thinking, in the way that all prejudices are.

Sarah Lefanu is helped in her prejudice by her language, which is laced with a kind of DIY intellectualism. Once learnt it's easy: a bit of etymology (m/other), a bit of deconstruction, a bit of jargon (female protagonists are "inscribed" in the narrative). Lefanu makes blanket statements about something as complex as sexuality, quotes Freud's "polymorphous sexuality" as if he had intended it as a happy solution, and her language belies the crude simplicity of her thought.

With regard to literary endeavour, truth in the particular sense is needed. These views are abstractions that have little to do with individuals. Issues without characters tend not to make good fiction.

Kathy O'Shaughnessy

## Colour it black

## ROCK RECORDS

Living Colour: Vivid (Epic EPC 480758-1)  
Gerry Rafferty: North and South (London LONLP 55)

In the orderly world of rock theory, the cat has rarely been set loose among so many pigeons as it has been by the emergence of a full-blooded heavy metal group that happens to be black. Living Colour, a quartet from New York led by the virtuoso guitarist Vernon Reid (formerly of Deft Punk), has at last challenged the long-held assumption that it is only Anglo-Saxon types with long blow-dried bouffants that are disposed to carry forward the legacy of prototype heavy rock groups like Cream, Led Zeppelin and of course, the Jimi Hendrix Experience.

Vivid is a stirring catalogue of forceful melodies, monster drum beats and grinding power-tool riffs. There are elements of a funk-metal hybrid emerging in tracks like "Funny Vibe" and "Which Way To America?" (one of two tracks produced by Mick Jagger) but the more immediate reference points are bands like Van Halen ("I Want To Know") and even Robin

Trower ("Middleman"). Stadium rock'n'roll was born out of the likes of Jimmy Page and Eric Clapton cranking up the volume on a lot of old blues riffs and a reassessment of the relationship between black musicians and heavy rock is long overdue.

However, one also wonders whether the style counsellors present at Living Colour's ICA debut last month might have been forced to take account of the possibilities within the heavy rock genre as they rubbed shoulders with some of the headbangers at the front. It may be that as well as staking a claim for black acceptance in modern rock'n'roll, Living Colour will also win some credibility for the most consistently reviled of all musical genres. Some one should book them for Castle Donington.

Gerry Rafferty has yet to emerge from the shadow of his success over a decade ago with "Baker Street". On *North and South* it sounds as if he has thumbed a lift up the road to a mock-Texan bar somewhere in his native Scotland. There is a mid-Atlantic blandness lurking behind the roccoco roots veneer.

David Sinclair

Keith Jarrett is a popular pianist, but some people find themselves irritated by the way in which, during the stream-of-consciousness solo improvisations for which he has become famous, he so clearly likes to give the impression that he is getting messages on a direct line from the Almighty. The spectre of quasi-mysticism and — whisper it — New Age is never far away.

Still Live is not like that at all. Yet in choosing to interpret nothing more elevated than a handful of well-known standard tunes through the equally humble medium of the classic piano trio, Jarrett comes far closer to convincing this listener that God is indeed guiding his fingers.

This music's inspiration, and its point of departure, is the great Bill Evans Trio of 1961, which raised piano-trio playing to new levels of group empathy. The relationship is made even more obvious by the fact that four of the items here — "Autumn Leaves", "When I Fall in Love", "Come Rain or Come Shine" and "Some Day My Prince Will Come" — were also recorded by Evans's remarkable ensemble, and comparisons are by no means unfavourable to the newer recording.

Jarrett is, of course, a far more emphatic and self-assured player than was Evans; but it must be said that on the

## Not just one for the fans

## JAZZ RECORDS

Keith Jarrett Trio Still Live (ECM 1360/1, 2 discs)  
Barney Wilson Trio/Tenor dans la Ville/Jazz sur Seine (Fontana 832 658-2)

slow tunes, notably "When I Fall in Love", Benny Golson's "Remember Clifford" and Paul Desmond's "Late September", he plays with quite astonishing delicacy and insight, brilliantly assisted by the bassist Gary Peacock and the drummer Jack DeJohnette. You can sense the audience in Munich's Philharmonie Hall holding its breath in wonder at the calm beauty the trio unfolds.

Only once or twice (as, for example, in "The Song Is You") do the players get carried away with themselves; even the pianist's notorious growling is kept reasonably in check. This is a Keith Jarrett record for people who think they don't like Keith Jarrett, and is an album to cherish. So is *Un Témoin dans la*

Ville/Jazz sur Seine, a 74-minute CD collation of two long-unavailable late-Fifties albums by the brilliant French tenor saxophonist whose return to prominence has been one of the happiest recent events in European jazz.

The dozen items of the soundtrack to Edouard Molinaro's 1959 film *Un Témoin dans la Ville* were performed by a quintet of Willem plus Kenny Dorham (trumpet), Duke Jordan (piano), Gilbert Rovère (bass) and Kenny Clarke (drums). What strikes most forcibly here is the unusual purity of Willem's work on the then-unfashionable soprano saxophone: his solo on the simple, almost childlike "Mélodie pour les Radio-Taxis" sounds like no one else.

His class shows through even more clearly on *Jazz sur Seine*, recorded a year earlier, where he fronted a rhythm section featuring three members of the original MJQ: Kenny Heath and Milt Jackson, here switching from the piano stool. A piece called "Bags' Barney Blues" proves that the vibraphone's gain really was the piano's loss: Jackson's introduction, his feeding of the main soloist and his own improvisation are quite exceptionally fine.

Richard Williams

## Sheer perfection

## CLASSICAL RECORDS

Palestina: Missa Papae Marcelli, Missa brevis. Westminster Cathedral Choir/Hill (Hyperion GDA 68266)  
Palestina: Mass "Dum compleretur", five motets. Westminster Cathedral Choir/Darlington (Nimbus NI 5100)

It is perhaps the sheer sublime perfection of Palestina that has kept his music in the realms of the ideal: revered as the shining example of Renaissance polyphony, but exciting less enthusiasm from performers and scholars than, say, the masses and motets of Byrd or Victoria, who seem to speak with more personal voices, but maybe only do so precisely by contrast with the model of Palestina. In relishing what is different, we overlook the yardstick.

There are signs, though, of a Palestina revival, at least on compact disc, and here are two distinguished additions to the catalogue, both recorded last year. They choose different Palestinas to present: the Westminster record is a big six-voice "parody mass",

and usefully it includes the Whitson motet out of which the mass is spun, along with four other motets.

Westminster's choice is a pair of apparently free-composed masses: that for Pope Marcellus, also in six parts, and the four-voice *Missa brevis*.

The bigger difference, however, is one of performing style. The Westminster choir, with its robust tone, more Continental, and they sing both soprano and alto lines. Also, Stephen Darlington at Christ Church tends to model the music in shorter spans than does David Hill at Westminster.

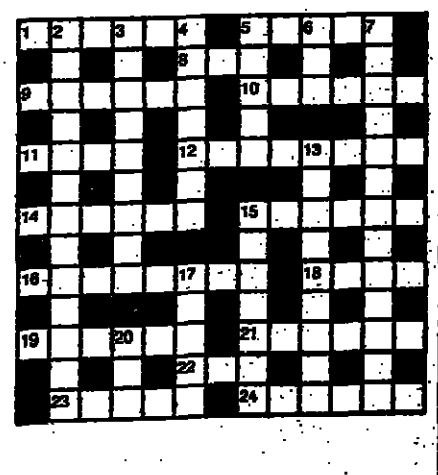
This, coupled with the difference in acoustic (the Christ Church choir were recorded in Dorchester Abbey, the Westminster team at home), makes the Christ Church record seem an intimate, even gingerly treatment of the music, whereas at Westminster it just streams forth, which makes this record the one to hear first.

Paul Griffiths

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, May 12. Entries should be addressed to The Times Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, May 14.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1558

- ACROSS  
1 Cloth sample (6)  
2 Thrusting remnants (5)  
3 Belonging to us (3)  
4 Threads (6)  
5 Obtain by intimidation (6)  
6 Attempt (4)  
7 Behaviour defence (8)  
8 Moderate red (6)  
9 Recompense (6)  
10 Fleet commander's vessel (8)  
11 Gasp (4)  
12 Gun pivot (6)  
13 African music shell (6)  
14 Auction item (3)  
15 Sets, sequences card game (5)  
16 Devils (6)



- DOWN  
1 Informer (7-6)  
2 Pulsating (9)  
3 Ransom object (7)  
4 Beliefs statement (5)  
5 Behave (3)  
6 Inner Peking (9-4)  
7 Subdue (9)  
8 Factors (7)  
9 Prickly Christmas shrub (5)  
10 Exuberant energy (3)

The winners and solution of The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword published last Saturday, will be published on Saturday, May 21.

SOLUTION TO NO 1557  
ACROSS: 1 Seethe 4 Dingle 9 Gitten 10 Steam 11 Sobs  
12 Hunchman 14 Leeway 15 Branch 16 Decipher 20 Jail  
22 Avail 23 Dorking 25 Swine 26 Impend  
DOWN: 1 Sag 2 Entebbe 3 Heel 5 Incurate 6 Glean 7 Emmental 8 Angel 11 Salad day 12 Pamphlet 16 Avarice  
17 Heady 19 Crane 21 Brim 24 God

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

## CHESS

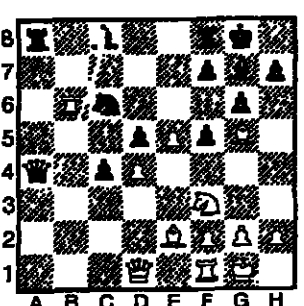
## Battle of the two Houses

An important addition to the annual calendar was the first match between the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The inaugural clash took place in the Jubilee Room of the Palace of Westminster on April 26 and resulted in a narrow victory for the elected members.

Full scores were (over three boards): Lord Oram (White) lost to Lewis Moomie (Black), Lab; Gwyn Jones (Cardiff North, Con) playing White lost to Lord Jay, Lord Kagan (White) lost to Jeremy Hanley (Richmond and Barnes, Con).

So, Michael Stern (Bristol NW, Con), the captain of the Commons team, was able to celebrate a modest victory. The most impressive game was that played on Board Three. Jeremy Hanley displayed a grasp of patient strategy to force victory with an extra passed pawn. White: Lord Kagan; Black: Jeremy Hanley, MP. French Defence.

The Advance Variation, favoured by the great chess teacher of the 1920s, Aron Nimzowitsch



At this point of the game the Division Bell rang in the House of Lords and the White player hurriedly absented himself for about 20 minutes in order to vote. On his return Black swiftly demonstrated the overwhelming nature of his advantage.

Having played this move Lord Kagan resigned the game. After the forced sequence 24... Rxb8 25 Rxb8+ Nxb8 26 b4 (to stop Rxb8 and 25) 26... Nc6 27 Kf1 b5 28 Bc3 f5 29 exf6 Bxf6 30 Bxf6 creating two connected passed pawns in the centre. Otherwise Black's extra passed pawn on c4 guarantees him an easy win.

On Thursday the Options Exchange tournament starts in Amsterdam. The world's top three rated players, Gary Kasparov, Anatoly Karpov and Jan Timman, will be playing each other four times. Look out for daily reports in The Times.

A fit of ambition which is not justified. White should simply retract his 17th move with 19.Ra1. 19... Ra2 20 Nd5 21 Ra2 22 Nd5 23 Ra2 24 Nd5 25 Ra2 26 Nd5 27 Ra2 28 Nd5 29 Ra2 30 Nd5 31 Ra2 32 Nd5 33 Ra2 34 Nd5 35 Ra2 36 Nd5 37 Ra2 38 Nd5 39 Ra2 40 Nd5 41 Ra2 42 Nd5 43 Ra2 44 Nd5 45 Ra2 46 Nd5 47 Ra2 48 Nd5 49 Ra2 50 Nd5 51 Ra2 52 Nd5 53 Ra2 54 Nd5 55 Ra2 56 Nd5 57 Ra2 58 Nd5 59 Ra2 60 Nd5 61 Ra2 62 Nd5 63 Ra2 64 Nd5 65 Ra2 66 Nd5 67 Ra2 68 Nd5 69 Ra2 70 Nd5 71 Ra2 72 Nd5 73 Ra2 74 Nd5 75 Ra2 76 Nd5 77 Ra2 78 Nd5 79 Ra2 80 Nd5 81 Ra2 82 Nd5 83 Ra2 84 Nd5 85 Ra2 86 Nd5 87 Ra2 88 Nd5 89 Ra2 90 Nd5 91 Ra2 92 Nd5 93 Ra2 94 Nd5 95 Ra2 96 Nd5 97 Ra2 98 Nd5 99 Ra2 100 Nd5 101 Ra2 102 Nd5 103 Ra2 104 Nd5 105 Ra2 106 Nd5 107 Ra2 108 Nd5 109 Ra2 110 Nd5 111 Ra2 112 Nd5 113 Ra2 114 Nd5 115 Ra2 116 Nd5 117 Ra2 118 Nd5 119 Ra2 120 Nd5 121 Ra2 122 Nd5 123 Ra2 124 Nd5 125 Ra2 126 Nd5 127 Ra2 128 Nd5 129 Ra2 130 Nd5 131 Ra2 132 Nd5 133 Ra2 134 Nd5 135 Ra2 136 Nd5 137 Ra2 138 Nd5 139 Ra2 140 Nd5 141 Ra2 142 Nd5 143 Ra2 144 Nd5 145 Ra2 146 Nd5 147 Ra2 148 Nd5 149 Ra2 150 Nd5 151 Ra2 152 Nd5 153 Ra2 154 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## THE WEEK AHEAD



## DANCE

**Fonteyn's Steps:** Maria Almeida, youngest of the Royal Ballet's leading women, has danced all the big classic roles and many modern works. Her greatest challenge comes on Tuesday, when she plays the title role created for Margo Fonteyn in Frederick Ashton's *Ondine*, a ballet not seen for nearly 30 years. It is based on a 19th-century novel; Almeida plays a water sprite who fascinated a mortal. Anthony Dowell, who has supervised the production, will partner her at the opening gala. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).



## GALLERIES

**BIRTH MARKS:** R.B. Kitaj's pastel (above) is among works on the Mother and Child theme by 44 artists — including sculpture by Glynn Williams and Henry Moore and paintings by Amanda Faulkner, Linda Sutton and Peter Blake. All are being auctioned in aid of the mother and child research charity, Birthright. Each work has been given an opening price but higher bids can be lodged throughout the exhibition's two-week run. Mother and Child is at the Levee Gallery, London W1 (01-493 2107). From Wednesday.



## BOOKS

**CRIME PAYS:** George V. Higgins, former DA and practising lawyer, stands alongside Boston's other major thriller writer, Robert B. Parker (author of the Spenser books). Best known here for *The Friends of Eddie Coyle*, which was made into a film starring Robert Mitchum, Higgins's trademark is a narrative composed largely of dialogue, much of it in the crackling argot of Boston low-life. He is ferociously prolific. *The Sins of the Fathers* (Andre Deutsch, £10.95) is the first collection of his short stories, some previously unpublished.



## FILM

**HER JANE:** The *Daily Mirror*'s comic-strip heroine Jane, who was always losing her uncles (especially in World War Two), made her cinema debut in a cheap British film in 1949. Her new screen adventure, *Jane and the Lost City* (PG), is equally cheap and British. Kirsten Hughes (above) now incarnates the character — embroiled in a battle between some stout-hearted British and nasty Nazis for a horde of diamonds in deepest Africa. With Sam Jones, Maud Adams. Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011), from Thursday.



## THEATRE

**UNCLE MICHAEL:** Michael Gambon takes the title role in Michael Frayn's new translation of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, directed by Michael Blakemore, which begins previews this week. Frayn's last Chekhov translation, *The Three Sisters*, transferred from Greenwich to the West End last year. The distinguished cast also includes Rachel Kempson, Imelda Staunton, Benjamin Whitrow, Jonathan Pryce, Greta Scacchi and Jonathan Cecil. Vaudeville (01-836 8987). Previews from Thursday. Opens May 24.



## OPERA

**PERSIAN PLEASURES:** Ann Murray returns to sing the title role in *Khosro*, a revival of Nicholas Hymen's production for English National Opera. First staged three years ago as part of the Handel bicentenary celebrations, *Khosro* played to full houses and won the Laurence Olivier Opera Award. Hymen sets the story of the Persian king and his amorous adventures in Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens. The revival brings back the original cast and conductor, Sir Charles Mackerras. London Coliseum (01-836 3161) from Tuesday.

## STAGE

## LONDON

**THE FACTORY GIRLS:** Admirable Druid Theatre from Galway with new Frank McGuinness play. Riverside Studios, Crisp Rd, London W8 (01-748 3354). Previews Tues, Wed at 7.45pm. Press night Thurs at 7pm. Then Mon to Sat, 7.45pm.

**MARY STUART:** Paola Dionisotti and Fiona Shaw as Bess and Mary in Schiller's romantic drama. Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, London SE10 (01-858 7755). Previews, Thurs, Fri and next Sat at 7.45pm. Opens May 16.

**THE FIFTEEN STREETS:** Shipbuilder's daughter falls in love with George dockworker in stage version of Catherine Cookson's *Flowerhouse* novel. Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, London WC2 (01-833 4401). Previews from Fri. Opens May 20.

**BLOOMSBURY FESTIVAL:** Two one-person plays in a double bill — a new English version of the Poulenc/Cocteau *La Voix Humaine*, with Eileen Hannon, and Krapp's Last Tape, starring Norman Beaton. Keith Warner directs. Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon St, London WC1. Fri, 7.30pm, plus May 18, 19, 21 and 28.

**IF I KNEW YOU WERE COMING I'D HAVE BAKED A CAKE:** New play by Paul Coubert, set in a converted boys' club building. Directed by Philip Groot. The Old Red Lion, St John St, London EC1. Opens Tues, 7.45pm.

**WIDE EYES' KINGDOM:** Bristol Theatre Press presents Nick Fisher's modern musical comedy about a young innocent dreaming of meeting Prince Charles. Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, London SW11.

## OUT OF TOWN

**DERBY:** Sunday's Children: British premiere of large-scale drama by Gerald Reinshagen showing the war years through German children's eyes. Playhouse, Eagle Centre (0332 363273). Opening night Mon 7.30pm.

**LEIGH:** Don Juan: Royal Exchange Theatre of Manchester starts a two-month tour with Jonathan Kent and Bernard Bresslaw as the Don and his valet. Lenton Hall, South (0942 603419). Starts Mon.

**SOUTHAMPTON:** The Fit Up: Justin Greene directs this political thriller set in Thailand's "Golden Triangle". Nuffield Theatre, University Rd (0703 671771). From Thurs.

## CONCERTS

**RARE FREIRE:** The Wigmore Hall's "Summer Nights" series begins with a rare baroque by the remarkable pianist Nelson Freire, playing Mozart's Sonata K 332, Schubert's Sonata D 945, Schumann's Etudes Symphoniques and some Rachmaninov Moments musicaux Op 16. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Today, 7.30pm.

**TEMIRKANOV/RPO:** Yuri Temirkanov conducts the RPO in Rossini's Italiana in Algeri Overture, Brahms' Violin Concerto with Nigel Kennedy as soloist and Dvorak's Symphony No 9 "New World". Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, or 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

**ELGAR'S KINGDOM:** The Bach Choir, Philharmonia Orchestra and soloists combine under the baton of Sir David Willcocks for a performance of The Kingdom by Elgar. Festival Hall, Mon, 7.30pm.

**WATTS/TATE:** Andre Watts solos in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4 with the ECO under Jeffrey Tate.

## WORD-WATCHING

**HORTENSIAL:** (b) Grown in a garden, also a name for a Latin herbaceous plant or vegetable garden.

**CHARIENTISM:** (a) Saying something bitchy in a charming and ironic manner, from the Greek *charientismos* = playfulness of style.

**GOD'S EYE:** (a) A cross of twigs, tied together with coloured yarn in geometric patterns, popular in Mexico and as a symbol of luck and virtue, from the Mexican Spanish *ojo de Dios*.

**CERVISIAL:** (b) Of or pertaining to beer, from the Latin *cervisia* = beer.

Fore and aft: Schumann's Manfred Overture and Symphony No 4. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795, or 01-638 8891). Tues, 7.45pm.

**WILLIAMS/TATE:** With the Tate Music Group directed by Richard Studd, John Williams solos in guitar concertos transcribed from Bach and Marcello, and plays items by Praetorius, Roncaldi and others. Festival Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

**ACIS, GALATEA:** Trevor Pinnock conducts the English Concert and soloists in Handel's *Acis and Galatea*. St John's, Smith Sq, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Thurs 7.30pm.

**RUSSIAN EVENING:** As part of the International Violin Series Valery Gergiev conducts the LSO in Glinka's *Fuslan* and Ludmilla Overture, Rachmaninov's Symphony No 2 and, with Vadim Repin as soloist, Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. Barbican Centre, Fri 7.45pm.

## RADIO



● The first substantial interview given by Alasdair Milne (above) since being ousted as Director-General of the BBC has already been hitting the headlines. In conversation with the veteran broadcaster Frank Gillard he reflects on his turbulent years as DG, particularly on relations with the Thatcher Government, which he contends, was basically hostile to the BBC; and the events which led to his sacking last year. Radio 4, Tuesday, 8.30-9.15pm.

**THE TWICE-PROMISED LAND:** The first of three programmes marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the state of Israel. Radio 4, Wed, 11.17.47am.

**FLETCHER'S FRIENDS:** An eight-part series in which Cyril Fletcher recalls stars he worked with, including Max Miller, Tommy Handley and Flanagan and Allen. Radio 2, Wed, 10-10.15pm.

## OPERA

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE:** Performances of Tippet's *The Knot Garden* on Wed and next Sat at 8pm. Sian Edwards conducts. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

**ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA:** A final *Makropulos Case*, tonight at 7.30pm; on Mon and Thurs at 7pm the new, enchanting *Magic Flute*, and a single *Così* on Wed at 7pm. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

**POCKET OPERA OF NÜRNBERG:** Visit the London International Opera Festival for an *Adieu* "without the heat and dust". The Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Rd, London WC1 (01-387 0031). Wed, Thurs, next Sat and Sun at 8pm.

**SCOTTISH OPERA:** A new production of *La Bohème* opens Tues at 7.15pm, directed by Elijah Moshinsky, conducted by John Mauceri and with Jane Eaglen as the Mimì. Also next Sat at 2.15pm. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 3311234).

**OPERA NORTH:** On tour with *Fidelio* (Thurs and next Sat; with *Katy Kabanova* (Wed) and with Ian Judge's production of *Tosca* (Tues and Fri). The Old Red Lion, Manchester (061 2369922).

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**20TH-CENTURY FRENCH PHOTOGRAPHY:** A glorious romp which includes works by Demachy, Atget, Doisneau, Man Ray, Cartier-Bresson and Kertész. Barbican Art Gallery, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 4141). From May 12 to July 17.

**ROGER FENTON — PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE 1850s:** Astonishing work from the master of Victorian photography. City Museum and Art Gallery, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs (0782 202173) until May 31.

## GALLERIES

**ANDREW STAHL:** Recent paintings which have developed away from a reliance on Mediterranean ambiguity towards an interest in Far Eastern culture. Paton Gallery, London WC2 (01-379 7854). From Fri.

**MICHAEL SANDLES:** Retrospective of sculpture and drawings by an artist whose concerns are war and war memorials. Whitechapel Art Gallery, London E1 (01-377 0107). From Fri.

**CONTEMPORARY FRENCH ART:** Two installations, one by Philippe Cazal, the other, entitled *Fuzzysset*, by a group called Information Fiction Publicité.

**CONCOURSE GALLERY, Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-638 4141). From Thurs.**

**60 YEARS OF THE NEW YORKER:** 100 cartoons and covers by artists from Steinberg to Thurber. Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (01-938 8500). From Wed.

**MEMORY AND IMAGINATION:** Paintings by seven European artists, including Cy Twombly and Stephen McKenna, which refer to or parody classical themes and styles. Smith Art Gallery, Stirling (0786 71917). From today.

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**OMNIBUS:** Investigates the state of opera in Britain and particularly the prospects for Covent Garden under the new team led by Jeremy Isaacs and Bernard Haitink. BBC2, Fri, 10.20-11.20pm.

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**FILMS**

**ON THE BLACK HILL (15):** British

saga of four generations living in the Welsh border country. Written and directed by Andrew Grieve, from Bruce Chatwin's novel. With Bob Peck, Gemma Jones. Cannon Tottenham Court Rd (01-222 0220) from Fri.

**TELEVISION**

**ROYAL BALLET:** A further performance tonight of Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Bugaku* and Robbins's *The Concert*. After its gala premiere (see top of page), *On the Edge* repeats on Friday and continues (with three casts) until June 2. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

**LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET:** Natalia Makarova's production of *Swan Lake* is at Eastbourne today, Southampton Mon to Thurs, where a programme of *La Bayadere*, *Carmen* and Christopher's *Bruce's* new *Swansong* will be given Fri and May 14. Congress Theatre, Eastbourne (0323 36363). Mayflower, Southampton (0703 229721).

**SCOTTISH BALLET:** Two ballets by Peter Darrell, *Cheri* and *Five Ruckert Songs*, continue until Wed. Studio Theatre, West Princes St, Glasgow (041 2275511).

**PRINCE OF DARKNESS (18):** The Devil's at large, raining slime and creepy-crawlies on the luckless cast. John Carpenter writes and directs, with Donald Pleasence, Jameson Parker. Prince Charles (01-437 8181), from Fri.

**TESTIMONY (PG):** Tony Palmer's flamboyant staged exploration of Shostakovich's relationship with Stalin. With Ben Kingsley, Terence Rigby. Curzon West End (01-439 4805), from Fri.

**TRAVELLING NORTH (15):** Strong adaptation of David Williamson's play about a cantankerous old man facing retirement and declining health in Queensland. Directed by Carl Shultz, with Leo McKern. Carron Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279). Screen on Baker Street (01-935 2772) from Fri.

**ON THE BLACK HILL (15):** British

saga of four generations living in the Welsh border country. Written and directed by Andrew Grieve, from Bruce Chatwin's novel. With Bob Pe



## SATURDAY

## TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

## SUNDAY

● Ten years ago you would have been hard pushed to find a double bill of films by women directors. In another 10 years, perhaps, it may no longer be an issue. Films will be made by people. Meanwhile, we are in a transition period, illustrated by tonight's offerings from The Film Club (BBC2, 10.00pm). Introduced by Patricia Rozema, the Canadian director of *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*, they both explore relationships between two women over a period of years. At *First Sight* was made in 1983 by Diane Krays and is based on the story of her own mother, the Liza of the film, played by Isabelle Huppert. She first

## CHOICE

meets Madeleine (Miou-Miou) during the war while escaping from an internment camp. Ten years later they meet again and discover they have more affection for each other than their unsuitable husbands. *Two Friends* (1986) marked the directing debut of the Australian, Jane Campion, and charts the lives of two schoolfriends (played by Emma Coles and Kris Bicken). It tells the story over five different periods, and, unusually, it starts in the present and works backwards.

Peter Waymark



Isabelle Huppert (left) and Miou-Miou as two women re-evaluating their marriages (At First Sight: BBC2, 10.00pm)



Nigel Hawthorne as the avaricious Harpagon with Janet Suzman as the scheming Frosine (The Miser: BBC2, 8.10pm)

## CHOICE

● Played by Nigel Hawthorne with dirty teeth, a wheezing cough and perfect comic timing, Molière's *The Miser* (BBC2, 8.10pm) opens a new season of classic plays in the *Theatre Night* series. The adaptation by Alan Drury brings the action forward by 200 years and sets the play in the 19th century, though many of the dramatic ingredients — the villain getting his comeuppance, young love thwarted but ultimately triumphant, chains of misunderstandings and the unexpected reunion of long-lost relatives — have a timeless

P.W.

## CHANNEL 4

## BBC1

- 6.45 Open University.  
8.25 *Robbery* (r). 8.30 *The Muppet Babies* (r).  
9.00 On the Waterfront. Among the guests is Eddie Edwards.  
10.55 Film: Harold Lloyd's *World of Comedy* (1962, b/w). A selection of clips chosen by the comedian from his many films. Commentary by Art Ross. 12.27 Weather.  
12.30 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.30 *Football*; 12.55 *News*; 1.25 *and 3.20* *Badminton*; 1.55, 2.25 and 2.55 *Racing from Lough Park*; 3.05 and 3.35 *Motor Sport*; British Touring Car championship; 3.55 *Weightlifting*; the European championships; 4.05 *Boxing* from York Hall; 4.30 *Golf*: the LPGA Grand Prix of Europe.  
5.05 *News* with Moira Stuart. Weather. 5.15 *Regional news/sport*.  
5.20 *Weightlifting*.  
5.25 *Boxing* from York Hall; 5.30 *Golf*: the LPGA Grand Prix of Europe.  
5.45 *Help*. Episode five of the soap about a group of young Liverpoolians. (Ceefax)  
6.15 Film: *Rio Lobo* (1970) starring John Wayne. American Civil War adventure with Wayne on the trail of two Yankee traitors who were responsible for the death of his friends and for stealing gold bullion. Directed by Howard Hawks. (Ceefax)  
8.05 *Bob Says Opportunity*.  
8.55 *News* and sport. Weather.  
9.10 *Cagney and Lacey*. Cagney has a court confrontation with the man she says raped her. (Ceefax)  
10.00 *American Basketball* introduced by Sally Jones. The first of a new series of highlights from the 1988 NBA play-offs.  
10.50 Film: *Hawaii* (1966) starring Max Von Sydow, Julie Andrews and Richard Harris. Adventure, based on the book by James Michener, about a puritan missionary who tries to impose his idea of civilization on the rather more relaxed Hawaiians. Directed by George Roy Hill.  
1.25am Weather.

## Radio 1

MW (medium wave) Stereo on VHF (see below).  
News on the hour until 12.00pm, then at 2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight.  
6.00 Nicky Campbell 8.00 Graham Knight 8.05 David Jacobs 9.00 Andrew Marr 9.05 Simon Doe 10.00 Michael Aspel 12.00 Gerald Harper 1.00 The News 1.05 Huddell 1.30 Sport on 2 including Rugby Union (New V Line); Racing (Lynchfield Park); and Golf (Epsom Grand Prix of Europe) 6.00 Do Do She Box (new series) 6.30 Adkins Away 7.00 Pop Score 7.30 in Celebration of Irving Berlin 9.30 Spring Sound 10.00 The World's Best 12.05 Night Owls with Dave Gelly 1.00 Bill Rennells presents Nightdrive 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

## Radio 2

MW (medium wave) Stereo on VHF (see below).  
News on the hour until 1.00pm, then at 3.00, 6.00, 7.00 and hourly from 10.00.  
4.00 Dave Bussey 6.00 Graham Knight 8.05 David Jacobs 9.00 Andrew Marr 9.05 Simon Doe 10.00 Michael Aspel 12.00 Gerald Harper 1.00 The News 1.05 Huddell 1.30 Sport on 2 including Rugby Union (New V Line); Racing (Lynchfield Park); and Golf (Epsom Grand Prix of Europe) 6.00 Do Do She Box (new series) 6.30 Adkins Away 7.00 Pop Score 7.30 in Celebration of Irving Berlin 9.30 Spring Sound 10.00 The World's Best 12.05 Night Owls with Dave Gelly 1.00 Bill Rennells presents Nightdrive 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

## WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST.  
6.00 *Worldwide* 6.30 *London* 7.00 *World News* 7.30 *Twenty-Four Hours* 7.57 *World News* 8.00 *World News* 8.30 *World News* 9.00 *World News* 9.30 *World News* 10.00 *World News* 10.30 *World News* 11.00 *World News* 11.30 *World News* 12.00 *World News* 12.30 *World News* 1.00 *World News* 1.30 *World News* 2.00 *World News* 2.30 *World News* 3.00 *World News* 3.30 *World News* 4.00 *World News* 4.30 *World News* 5.00 *World News* 5.30 *World News* 6.00 *World News* 6.30 *World News* 7.00 *World News* 7.30 *World News* 8.00 *World News* 8.30 *World News* 9.00 *World News* 9.30 *World News* 10.00 *World News* 10.30 *World News* 11.00 *World News* 11.30 *World News* 12.00 *World News* 12.30 *World News* 1.00 *World News* 1.30 *World News* 2.00 *World News* 2.30 *World News* 3.00 *World News* 3.30 *World News* 4.00 *World News* 4.30 *World News* 5.00 *World News* 5.30 *World News* 6.00 *World News* 6.30 *World News* 7.00 *World News* 7.30 *World News* 8.00 *World News* 8.30 *World 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## Shares close account above 1,800

Person E	30%	30%	FFG Wtd	41	21%	Shelton A	21%	41%
Henry Ar	6%	6%	Pac Entang	44	44%	Thorn N A	27%	27%
			Pac Gas E	-14%	14%	Ward	4.1%	4.1%



# Marshalls Halifax wins £70m race at George Armitage

By Alison Eadie

George Armitage & Sons, the much-courted brick manufacturer based in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, has agreed to a £70 million bid from Marshalls Halifax, the concrete products and engineering group based in Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Mr Geoffrey Armitage, the chairman of Armitage, said Marshalls offered the most money and its philosophy of running its business was compatible with the Armitage philosophy. Both are family-run firms.

Armitage agreed to a £69 million bid from Hanson in January this year, which lapsed after it was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Istock Johnson, which has a 7 per cent share of the British brick market, was keen to acquire Armitage. Other potential buyers were believed to in-

clude Blue Circle and Marley. Mr Peter Woodman, the chief executive of Istock, yesterday expressed disappointment at not acquiring Armitage, but said that the price was too high. Although he did not quantify what offer Istock had made, he said "there was a good deal of air space between our final figure and the Marshalls price."

The Department of Trade and Industry last week cleared Istock's bid from any monopolies reference, even though no formal offer had been launched. The Marshalls offer has had no such clearance, but as the company has no brick interests, a reference looks highly unlikely.

The offer, which has been accepted by holders of more than 99 per cent of Armitage shares, is for 20 convertible cumulative redeemable preference shares in Marshalls for

each Armitage ordinary. SBCI Savory Mill, the broker to Marshalls, has valued the convertibles at 108.75p each, so valuing Armitage ordinary shares at £21.75 each. The cash alternative is worth £20 a share.

Mr David Marshall, the chairman of Marshalls Halifax, said the enlarged company would have "a far greater capacity for growth than the two companies separately."

Marshalls said it expects its profits for the year just ended, to the end of March, to be not less than £13 million.

Three of the four Armitages on the board — Geoffrey, George and David — are retiring at the end of June, but Mr Nicholas Armitage, the commercial director, has been asked to stay on. Armitage has 2.5 per cent of the British brick market.

See Tempus below



Family firms fan: Geoffrey Armitage outside the head office of his company in Wakefield

## Beazer gives pledge on jobs

By John Bell  
City Editor

The Bathconstruction group, has offered employment guarantees to the workforce of Koppers, the US building materials group which is fighting a \$1.8 billion (£964 million) takeover bid from the British group.

The offer is conditional on Koppers' resolve to begin talks, aimed at an immediate merger agreement. Beazer's \$60 per share cash offer is backed by holders of around

two-thirds of Koppers' equity, but Beazer cannot take control because of court proceedings.

In a letter to Mr Charles Pullin, the Koppers' chairman, Mr Brian Beazer said Koppers had failed to devise a recapitalization plan providing equal value to the bid terms.

"We will maintain the headquarters of Koppers' aggregates business in Pittsburgh, and will endeavour to sell the chemicals business so as to minimise any

dislocation of employees.

"We are so confident of our ability to accomplish these objectives that, in connection with an immediate merger agreement that avoids further waste and delay, we will offer substantial and important employment guarantees to every single employee in Pittsburgh and elsewhere, other than senior management. Further, in such a merger agreement, we will commit to maintain Koppers' civic contributions to the city of Pittsburgh."

### TEMPUS

## City likely to welcome a key brick in the road to success

Marshalls Halifax's success in developing the concrete products market has earned it shares a traditional premium to the building products sector. The company's strong City following should help it in its case for the acquisition of George Armitage, the brickmaker.

Armitage was not short of suitors and Marshalls won the day because it agreed to pay the highest price. The offer of £70 million is only a smidgen above that offered by Hanson at the start of the year, but is still considered a very full price.

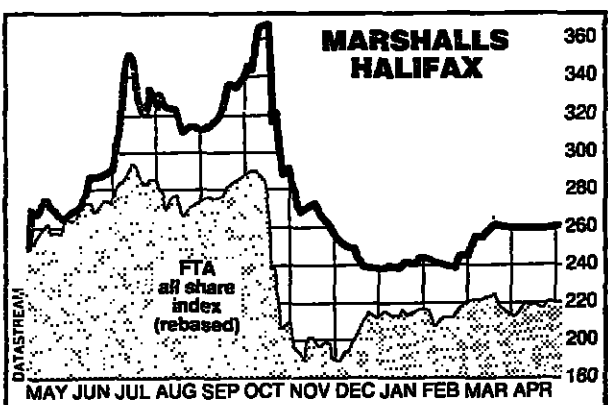
Last year saw a rash of brick buys at even fancier prices. Most recently Blue Circle's takeover of Ockley was done on a prospective p/e ratio of 15 compared with a prospective p/e of 13 for Marshalls' takeover of Armitage.

The interest in Armitage and the prices being offered are a reflection of the buoyancy of the brick market. Brick sales rose by 5 per cent last year, boosted by the housebuilding boom and capacity constraints. The buoyancy has continued this year, but there are question marks over next year with additional capacity coming on stream from most leading brick-makers.

The acquisition is a very big one for Marshalls, whereas it would hardly have been noticed by Hanson. Marshalls is recapitalized at only just above £100 million before the deal. It has been successful in its previous acquisitions, but has done nothing on such a scale before.

It also has no existing brick operations and is buying a 2.5 per cent share of a market dominated by larger and very professional operators. Would-be buyers Hanson and Istock Johnson could both have effected cost savings by integrating Armitage into their existing brick operations.

Armitage nearly trebled its pretax profits last year to £5.9 million and its margins widened to more than 25 per cent. Istock Johnson has the best margins in the industry at 28



per cent, making scope for further improvement at Armitage look limited.

Marshalls' strength in management and expertise in marketing will doubtless be brought to bear at Armitage.

### Eagle Trust

Merging four quoted companies, none of which has continuous years, would create headaches for any auditor. So it was that the harassed accountants at Peat Marwick Mitchell forced Eagle Trust to call off its final results announcement a couple of weeks ago.

It is hard not to sympathize. The results that finally emerged yesterday not only cover an 18-month period, half-way through which Eagle was hatched from the old, troubled Audiotronic through a three-way merger with Mitchell Somers and Midland City Partnerships, but also include six months of figures from the Pavis acquisition and, for good measure, a couple of weeks of Samuelson, the quoted film group swallowed last autumn.

Comparisons with the previous financial year — which lasted 16 months — are far from odious, but totally irrelevant, since the £676,000 loss related only to Audiotronic and, a year after the merger, Eagle Trust's only connection with that company is historic.

The £6.38 million pretax profit is a creditable performance, given that the group

effectively started life in a £2 million hole, carved out by the pre-merger Audiotronic. And it would have been somewhere between £10.5 million and £12 million had the results been merger accounted, the Eagle management claims.

However, it is a vastly tidier and fitter operation that remains. Returns of 12 per cent are being earned on the manufacturing activities, and up to 50 per cent elsewhere, including the swiftly integrated Samuelson. The group looks capable of making £17.5 million in 1988. And that includes little, if anything, from the Connect parcel delivery service for which the management has such high hopes.

The balance sheet will show borrowings of £38 million, but property sales will reduce that by £20 million this year. Up to £15 million more is in quoted investments, including the 15 per cent stake in Owners Abroad.

At 17p the shares sell for little more than 11 years' prospective earnings. Some will want to see more evidence of the new team's ability, but the brave, heartened by Peat Marwick's presence, may have seen enough.

### CALA

CALA first put its foot over the Scottish border in 1982, snapping up a small company in Surrey. Other English deals followed in 1986 and 1987.

Now it takes a more significant step in buying Stanley

## Surprise Revenue rethink on GPG

By Richard Thomson  
Banking Correspondent

The Inland Revenue in a surprise move yesterday reversed its decision for the second time on the demerger plans of GPG, the merchant banking group, allowing the scheme to go ahead.

The demerger of Guinness Mahon from GPG, formerly Guinness Peat Group, which was originally scheduled for this week, could therefore go ahead in the next few days. Equicorp is still set to sell all or part of its 61 per cent stake in the banking group, whether or not the demerger is carried out.

Responding to an appeal by GPG, Inland Revenue special commissioners overturned an earlier decision to charge GPG the full Advanced Corporation Tax liability on the demerger. Since this would have cost about £25 million in extra tax, GPG announced on Thursday that it was shelving the plan.

The Revenue gave no explanation of why it had changed its mind on the demerger plan. Tax rules on such schemes give companies substantial tax relief as long as the demerger is not meant to facilitate a change of ownership or control of the companies involved. Equicorp said this week that it was likely to sell its stake in the group.

Equicorp's statement was in itself a reversal of its insistence since it bought GPG last year that it was a long-term investor. It was on the basis of this earlier stance that the Inland Revenue had first agreed to give full tax relief on the demerger when Equicorp applied for it about two months ago.

The Bank of England is believed to have been involved in negotiations over the demerger plan. The current situation is a considerable embarrassment to the Bank which last year judged Equicorp to be a "fit and proper" institution to buy a British bank.

If Guinness Mahon gains a separate Stock Exchange listing from the rest of the group Equicorp may choose to keep its stake in the merchant bank and sell its holding in the rest of the GPG. It has always maintained that it was most interested in the merchant banking side of the group.

The New Zealand company suggested this week that it had lost interest in overseas investments after the stock market crash.

## Blow the whistle on this unfair game of cloud cuckoo clocks

Belief in the virtues of market forces is not, in itself, a policy for mergers and acquisitions. The concept of competition, as the Monopolies and Mergers Commission regularly demonstrates, can be defined in different ways and if you argue on the grounds you have chosen you are apt to arrive at the judgement you prefer. Thirdly, there is something called the national interest which may change over time and from one situation to another. Good governments do not have to make a meal of eating their own words.

This week the Government has made the sensible decision of asking the Monopolies Commission to examine the implications of the Kuwait Government's 22 per cent stake in BP. This dazzling piece of commercial opportunism by the Kuwaiti Investment Office in the October market shambles was not what the Government had in mind in its £7.5 billion sale of BP shares to the public. I hope and believe that it is about to make a second sensible decision, referring to the Monopolies Commission Nestlé's £2.1 billion cash bid for Rowntree, coupled with the pre-emptive 29.9 per cent holding in Rowntree built up by Jacobs Suchard.

There is a very simple argument why this should be done. It was eloquently put in a letter to *The Times* yesterday by Richard S Rowntree, a great-nephew of the founder: Switzerland has a "patent" for protecting its commercial interests by regulation and extreme secrecy. Thus, while Rowntree and Suchard are approximately similar in size, Suchard is free to compete for control of the British company while being protected by Swiss law from a bid by Rowntree.

Only in a country of cuckoo clocks would you see the simultaneous spectacle of two leading Swiss companies moving easily towards acquiring a British company and two others, Ciba-Geigy and Sanofi, strengthening their already formidable defences against unwanted intruders by limiting to 2 per cent the maximum holding they are prepared to register in the name of any one shareholder. Swiss companies, which virtually write their own rules, can refuse to register any shareholder, without giving reasons. New shareholders have to apply for registration in their own names (no hiding behind nominees) and if they are not put on the register they cannot vote. It is an interesting dimension of fabled Swiss democracy.

The first principle that should now be applied to cross-border European bids for British companies is reciprocity. It is important in particular cases; it



KENNETH FLEET

is also important as part of a general campaign for fewer restrictions in Europe of the kind practised by the Swiss and West Germans. The Bank of England was not mealy-mouthed with the Japanese who, while heavily protective of their own financial companies, would have liked to take over merchant banks and securities businesses in London. If SCW Warburg was, quite properly, saved for Britain, why not Rowntree? Playing fields should be level or the game postponed. As John Basher, of the Confederation of British Industry, said, in the run-up to a single European market in 1992, "We cannot afford to see major UK brands sold off. This would amount to selling our seed corn."

Reciprocity and the single market are not the only reasons why I think the Swiss raids on Rowntree ought to be looked at by the Monopolies Commission (not the ideal body for the purpose but the best we have available). British industry is already well into another great phase of reconstruction through acquisition and merger. The pace can only increase as the Americans in particular, and the Japanese understand what Continental Europe grasped from the start and the British are beginning to see, namely the hazards and opportunities of access to a single, high spending market of 312 million people. It would, therefore, be timely if mature thought and cool analysis were applied to bid practices, which in certain respects ought to be modified.

The fundamental problem is how to arrive at a system that provides shelter against predators — and thus some continuity for well-managed companies — which does not at the same time leave the inefficient snugly protected against change.

Many British companies are now run by share watchers: they are obsessive about movements in their company's stock, apprehensive that an unexplained fall could leave them exposed, afraid that a sudden rise might herald the dreaded bid. This attitude encourages a short-term approach to management in which research and development suffer in the interest of higher earnings. But there is no pleasing the analysts for long: turnover stimulated by changing recom-

mendations is what the stock market is about, while the fund managers are judged by their investment performance in the short term.

You cannot, nor should you want to, outlaw takeover bids. But three aspects are worth thinking about — one wry, one reprehensible, and one relevant to new thinking about mergers and acquisitions.

It is odd, to say the least, that institutional investors fall so readily for the dawn raid. As the almost inevitable forerunner of a bid, or indeed competing bids, the price of the shares will almost invariably go higher. Suchard's dawn raid price for Rowntree was 630p a share: the shares have since risen to more than 900p — surely a cause for sackcloth if not sacking for some short-term disciples.

It is as if the institutions wanted to put Rowntree in play. The new breed of market operator has no inhibitions at all. The game is to build up a small but significant stake, say 5 per cent, with the intention of putting the company in play and delivering the critical percentage that will take a grateful bidder over 50 per cent.

This method of making money has little relevance to the company which loses its independence as a result. What is relevant surely is that the company constituency — those who have a financial interest, including shareholders but also beyond shareholders, that is, employees, suppliers and customers — is much wider than stock market behaviour suggests. In a hostile, predatory bid, it is still right, bearing in mind all these interests and how some of them are likely to be affected (the sack for instance), that a company can change hands if 50 per cent plus one of the shareholders take the bid? Why not follow the National Union of Mineworkers and define a democratic majority as 65 per cent? If 65 per cent were the minimum percentage required to take over a company the bidder in a hostile takeover would have to work harder to persuade shareholders (including his own) of the strength of his case, while in bids for companies that clearly needed to be shaken up and reinvigorated it would not be a serious barrier to a well-founded offer.

On the level of information and awareness among all shareholders but particularly private shareholders, I believe that companies should provide in the annual report a proper analysis of the shareholders' register. The blanket of nominees and other anonymous categories is no longer good enough. Companies have the right to discover the identities of shareholders behind nominee names, which many of them religiously exercise. They should share their knowledge.

## Co-op's advance to £27m is helped by restructuring

By Rosemary Unsworth  
Retail Affairs Correspondent

The Co-operative Retail Services group has reported an 8 per cent increase in trading surplus, from £25 million to £27.1 million.

This came from a 2 per cent increase in sales, at £1,012.8 million for the year to end-January. Dividend stamps amounted to £994,000, compared with £1.03 million.

The improvement has come from the rationalization programme which has been under way since management reorganization in 1985.

The profitability rate for the year is 2.7 per cent, which the Co-ops need to compete against the other leading high street chains. The figure compares with 2.5 per cent the previous year.

Mr Harry Moore, the chief executive officer, said: "We are still behind Tesco and Marks and Spencer at around 6 per cent, but we are in position to improve this figure now."

Ten new stores opened in the year as part of a £50 million capital expenditure programme, while 70 smaller units closed.

The group now has 590 food



Moore: has strong hopes



Hellowell: 'higher standards'

units, plus nearly 400 Stop and Shop stores, 100 medium sized stores and 63 superstores.

The latter provide 50 per cent of food turnover and more than half the group's profits.

The development programme for the division is worth £30 million for 1988, with an emphasis on the development of convenience stores which are open from 8am until 8pm.

Mr Brian Hellowell, the chairman, said: "In food, dairy and funerals, the overall UK markets are not growing to any extent, and through improved efficiency and higher

standards, each of these divisions is successfully consolidating a profitable position for itself."

The dairy business, which supplied 544 million pints of milk last year and where sales were £112 million, now includes large bags of potatoes on the list of provisions delivered by milkmen.

The non-food division, which includes Living department stores and out-of-town Homeworld shops, made a £148 million profit, up by 15 per cent.

Funerals' sales were £18.5 million, compared with £17.9 million.

## A&M in £2.8m cash call

By Martin Waller

A&M Group, the troubled equipment and props hire company which serves the film industry, is raising about £2.8 million after expenses through an issue of convertible loan stock.

The issue is being conditionally placed with institutions, but is subject to a "clawback" by existing shareholders, on the basis of £1 of stock for every 20 shares held.

It is being masterminded by City and Westminster Financial, which last month took options of more than 15 per cent of the equity and put in new management.

A&M is estimating pretax losses of £1.02 million for the year to January 31, 1988, against £83,000 profit previously.

The losses include an exceptional charge of £400,000, relating principally to relocation costs at a furniture hire subsidiary.

The total loss attributable to the company for the year is likely to be about around £1.7 million.

The board is planning a capital reduction to eliminate the accumulated £4.6 million deficiency on the reserves.

## Lygo emphasizes need for leadership

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Because of Britain's economic improvements, the country was now in an extremely dangerous period, Sir Raymond Lygo, the chief executive of British Aerospace, told the British Institute of Management.

He added: "If people are not properly led in this period they will think the war is won", and called for capable leadership as well as good management.

He went on: "I firmly believe that, having won the first battle, we are now poised for victory. But we will need all the strength good leadership can command if we are to be ruthless enough as managers to achieve it."

He believed that Britons had arrested the decline in some parts of the economy,

and that a start had been made on the road to a general recovery. He said: "If that path is to be maintained upwards then we who claim to be managers had better be sure we understand the importance of leadership."

There were no bad industries, only bad managers and no bad industrial relations without bad understanding, Sir Raymond said. He added: "We all know that much more needs to be done, because I believe that such conversions as have been made are very shallow, and that if you dig you will still find a somewhat organic belief that life is not as tough and as hard as we know it has to be."

Sir Raymond said that determining leadership capabilities required much physical and mental testing.

## BAT in hearing clash

BAT Industries and its bid target Farmers Group have disagreed over interpreting a hearing before the Arizona Insurance Department.

BAT reported that Mr Michael Shaffert, the assistant Arizona attorney-general, representing the Arizona Insurance Department, recom-

mended that the acquisition be approved by the Arizona Director of Insurance.

But Farmers said that the chief hearing officer said this was the assistant attorney-general's opinion and was not that of the Director of Insurance or of the hearing officer.

## COMPANY NOTICE LONDON INDEMNITY & GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED NOTICE CONCERNING DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS

In October 1976 a Scheme of Arrangement for the above-named company came into force. The principal effect was to reduce the benefits of policyholders and the debts due to other creditors. The company now has a surplus of assets and has decided to distribute it by increasing the benefits under the relatively few policies still force (but not up to the original level) and by offering to make ex gratia payments to those persons who have already received reduced payments in accordance with the terms of the Scheme.

A letter and explanatory statement are being sent to the last recorded address of all those known to be affected. In cases where the original recipient of a payment under the Scheme has died, the offer of an ex gratia payment may be taken up by whoever is now entitled to receive such a payment.

Any person affected by the proposed distribution who considers that the company may not have his or her current address or other relevant information should write immediately to the company at Dept LIGI/XS, Forbury House, 18-20 The Forbury, Reading, RG1 3ES stating his or her name, policy number if any, current address and any relevant previous address.

The offers of ex gratia payments are only valid if they are accepted within a period of two months from their being made.

Dated 7th May 1988



THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES					OTHER CURRENCY RATES	
Sterling index compared with 1975 was same as 77.5 (day's range 77.5-78.0).						
Market rates for May 6						
	Range	Close	1 month	3 months		
New York	1.8221-1.8570	1.8526	0.73-10.00	0.48-0.43p	Argentina sterling	13.7000-13.8012
London	2.2598-2.3028	2.2996-2.3027	0.18-0.25c	0.35-0.40p	Australia dollar	2.7159-2.7185
Amsterdam	3.5058-3.5174	3.5083-3.5127	11-1p	3p-36p	Bahrain dirham	2.0121-2.0135
Frankfurt	2.57-2.57.65	2.57.45	65-75.45	3p-36p	Brazil cruzeiro	200.00-204.33
Copenhagen	12.0679-12.1028	12.0730-12.0680	9-14p	2 1/2-4c	Cyprus pound	0.8300-0.8400
Oslo	1.1716-1.1785	1.1733-1.1740	14-16p	40-51p	Finland markka	7.4750-7.5170
Stockholm	3.1189-3.1190	3.1181-3.1185	19-16p	10-11p	France franc	246.90-247.80
Paris	265.84-267.45	265.84-267.45	50-100c	10-15c	Germany DM	2.45-24.95
Brussels	268.96-268.17	268.96-268.17	24-44c	75-101c	India rupee	24.50-24.50
Geneva	268.96-268.17	268.96-268.17	24-44c	75-101c	Kuwait dirham KD	0.5080-0.5130
Basel	268.96-268.17	268.96-268.17	24-44c	75-101c	Malaysia ringgit	0.8000-0.8000
Yokohama	11.4758-11.5110	11.4785-11.4938	15-17c	1-16c	Mexico peso	4.180-4.200
Osaka	10.5395-10.5708	10.5395-10.5656	12-14c	5-7c	New Zealand dollar	2.7082-2.7151
Tokyo	10.3590-10.3673	10.3590-10.3675	24-26c	24-26p	Saudi Arabia riyal	8.0000-8.0000
Delhi	21.80-20.57	21.80-20.57	24-26c	24-26p	Singapore dollar	3.7252-3.7435
Calcutta	21.80-20.57	21.80-20.57	24-26c	24-26p	S Africa rand (R)	0.5222-0.5245
Bombay	21.80-20.57	21.80-20.57	24-26c	24-26p	S Africa rand (R)	0.5222-0.5245
Barbados	2.6506-2.6157	2.6089-2.6129	11-15p	4-4p	U A E dirham	0.5320-0.5370

London = gr. Discount = dis.

London and Barclays Bank supplied by  
Elys and Barclays Bank FOREX

**DOLLAR SPOT RATES**

Singapore	2,004.0-2,005.0	W Germany	3,673.0-3,680.0	Italy	1,254.0-1,255.0
Malaysia	2,585.0-2,586.0	Switzerland	1,682.5-1,693.0	Belgium (Com)	35.13-35.18
Australia	1,297.0-1,297.7	Netherlands	1,631.0-1,404.3	Hong Kong	7,511.7-7,512.5
Ureids	1,232.5-1,233.5	France	1,655.0-1,699.0	Portugal	137.50-137.90
Sweden	5,857.0-5,858.0	Japan	6,720.0-6,725.0	Spain	111.32-111.42
Ukraine	6,160.0-6,170.0	Russia	184.50-184.50	Austria	11.80-11.81

**MONEY**

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12 mesh 7.50-7.45  
6

pils: 2810m  
 alt: 298.05m  
 alt weak: 298.04m  
 age rate: 87.9333%  
 alt weak: 2100m

alt: 2100m  
 received: 25%  
 received: 14%  
 last w: 27.5202%  
 replace 2100m

American wages: \$468.00-481.00 (\$245.00-248.00)  
 New Sovereigns: \$104.25-105.25 (\$256.00-56.75)  
 Old Sovereigns: \$104.25-105.75 (\$256.00-57.00)  
 Platinum: \$617.00 (\$277.35)  
 Palladium: \$617.25 (\$265.16)  
 Silver: \$3.35-5.37 (\$3.410-3.425)

## ON FINANCIAL FUT

Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol	
<b>One Month Sterling</b>						<b>US Treasury Bond</b>					
86	91.24	91.26	91.17	91.20	30388	Jun 86	88-01	88-26	87-17	87-30	7691
86	90.76	90.79	90.71	90.72	6781	Sep 86	87-14	87-14	87-14	86-30	121
86	90.51	90.53	90.44	90.46	252	<b>Long GR</b>					
86	90.32	90.34	90.28	90.30	94						

89.13	18	JUN 88	120-07
89.97	11	Sep 88	95-12
		Dec 88	NT

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<b>LONDON FOX</b>	<b>G W Joyman May 918-906 Jul 929-627 Sep 943-941 Dec 983-982</b>	<b>MAY 905-984 May 1003-1002 Jul 1019-1018 Jul 1424</b>
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<b>LONDON METAL EXCHANGE</b>			
Official prices/volume previous day			Rediff Wolf
(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Vol
Copper Gde A	1181.5-1182.5	1118.0-1120.0	472100
Copper Stand	1132.0-1138.0	1090.0-1090.0	Tone Easter

132	Zinc Hi Gide	607.00-608.00
150	Silver Target	623.00-625.00

1.25	Sep 1087-1096	May 1173-1170	Silver Small	683.00-635.00	644.00-648.00	41	Quiet
0.50	Nov 1113-1112	July 4189	Aluminum	1395.0-1398.0	1204.0-1205.0	296150	Quiet
2.76	SUGAR	C Cane/ton	Aluminum H-	2650.0-2650.0	2270.0-2290.0	51500	Quiet
0.50	FOB	Vel: 1298	Nickel	16700-16800	13700-13900	17496	Eastern
0.50	Aug 194.0-93.6	Mar 194.0-93.6					
0.50	Oct 193.6-93.8	May 195.0-94.0					

† (Cents per Troy oz., \* (\$ per tonne))

95.0	<b>LONDON MEAT FUTURES (AUG)</b>	ME
\$		4-10

WHEAT close (c2)			Vol 63	Live Pig Contract		No. livestock prices at representative markets on May 6			
May 104.20	May 106.50	Sp 101.75	May	Open	Close	Fig (sp)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
May 105.55	May 108.10	Mr 108.45	Jun	unc.	88.2	Fig (sp)	71.53	225.74	111.18
BAILEY close (c2)			Vol 21	Aug	88.0	89.1	Eng (w-)	+3.49	+4.21
May 104.10	Sp 98.10	Mr 102.55	Oct	91.0	91.3	Eng (w-)	+3.49	+4.21	+1.54
May 105.55	Sp 101.75		Nov	91.7	91.3	Eng (w-)	+3.49	+4.21	+1.54

Live Cattle Contract	Eng/W
Jun	Eng/W
unq	Scot
unq	

28.3	Aug 127.8-27.5	Apr 136.8-35.0	Jul	Scotland (%)	n/a	-41.8	+4.7
1.97	Oct 128.9-28.8	Jun 135.0-32.0	Aug	Scotland (n)	n/a	189.73	114.57
	Dec 131.8-31.0	Vol 178	Vol Pig-60 Cattle-0	Scotland (+/-)	n/a	+13.08	+2.44

\* Estimated dead carcass weight

## UNLISTED SECURITIES

[illegible]

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Cardinals	158	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
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800

### Portfolio — PLUS NEW — Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If you win outright or a share of the total weekly accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Island Foods	Food	100
2	Island Foods	Food	100
3	Island Foods	Food	100
4	Island Foods	Food	100
5	Island Foods	Food	100
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38	Island Foods	Food	100
39	Island Foods	Food	100
40	Island Foods	Food	100
41	Island Foods	Food	100
42	Island Foods	Food	100
43	Island Foods	Food	100
44	Island Foods	Food	100

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

SHORTS (Under Five Years)						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

UNDATED						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

INDEX LINKED						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ELECTRICALS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

DRAPERY, STORES						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

CINEMAS, TV						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FOODS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FINANCE, LAND						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

E-K						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

L-R						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

S-Z						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

OILS, GAS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

WINE, SPIRITS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

TOBACCO						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Firm end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 25. Dealings ended yesterday. Contango day May 9. Settlement day May 16. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 29)

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Island Foods	Food	100
2	Island Foods	Food	100
3	Island Foods	Food	100
4	Island Foods	Food	100
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43	Island Foods	Food	100
44	Island Foods	Food	100

BREWERIES						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

BUILDING, ROADS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FINANCE, LAND						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FOODS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FINANCE, LAND						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
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FINANCE, LAND						
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
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FINANCE, LAND						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
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FINANCE, LAND						
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FOODS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
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FINANCE, LAND						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High Low Stock Price Change %						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

1982		Company	Price		Change	Gross dollar p	Yr %
High	Low		Est	Offer			
448	344	Atlantic Combs	350	350	• • •	8.5	2.7
133	77	Audio Fidelity	113	120	• • •	9.7	9.6
283	224	Audio Sync	225	230	• • •	3.0	1.3
66	35	Beacon Co	37	42	• • •	10	2.8
45	33	Bennett & Fountain	33	35	• • •	1.8	2.9
352	391	BKDC (a3)	313	318	• • •	17.8	5.6
161	68	BSR	67	70	• • •	2.6	4.3
188	135	Burns	140	140	• • •	4.5	3.3
121	85	Butterfield	103	110	• • •	2.8	2.9
194	153	Bowditch	150	156	• • •	4.5b	2.9







## FAMILY MONEY

Edited by  
Vivien Goldsmith

## Timely timeshare alert

Stop and think before you buy a timeshare. This time the advice comes from John Butcher, the industry and Consumer Affairs Minister, in a leaflet alerting consumers to dubious timeshare practices.

The leaflet, issued by the Department of Trade and Industry this week, includes a checklist pointing out pitfalls that would-be purchasers should avoid.

These include a warning to beware discounts, prizes and awards offered with a timeshare. You are advised never to produce a credit card at a presentation — it shows that you could pay on the spot — and not to sign anything at a first meeting unless there is a cooling-off period or to get away from the salesman, think before you buy, take proper legal advice and ask about maintenance charges.

The guidance leaflet, *Your Place in the Sun — or is it?*, is an update of a leaflet published last year. It has been drawn up with the Timeshare Developers' Association, which has agreed to monitor the behaviour of its members.

The £400 million industry has suffered from publicity generated by unscrupulous operators that rush people into agreements. Last year the three associations representing the industry merged to form one body in an attempt to improve its image and deter operators from sharp practice.

The Timeshare Developers' Association, however, said it was disappointed in the ministry's leaflet, despite its own

involvement in its content. "It's scaremongering and over-cautious and some of the recommendations are already covered by our code of practice," it said.

The association operates a five-day cooling-off period, instructs members to only offer "unrepeatable discounts" to would-be purchasers and to ensure that inducements to see properties are as stated.

Meanwhile the association has issued its own leaflet, *Buying Timeshare You Can Trust*. It highlights some important questions that would-be buyers should ask, such as:

- Is the timeshare affiliated to an exchange organization?
- Is there a cooling off period?
- Are there any cancellation penalties?
- Is there an 'owners' association'?

The most important area to investigate is your legal ownership rights. All timeshare buyers have to be sure that they have security of tenure and that the development complies with all relevant local and national laws and that there is no mortgage on the land.

The ministry leaflet is available from 10-18 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NN, or from any trading standards office. There is also a 24-hour hotline, 01-215 3344, for ordering leaflets. The association's leaflet is available from 23 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB (01-821 8845).

Rosemary Unsworth  
Retail Affairs Correspondent



Timeshare should be seen as a long-term investment in holidays, not a property investment, says the Timeshare Developers' Association. At this timeshare in Portugal, the Four Seasons Country Club at Quinta do Lago, the association's code of good practice applies

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YOUR STANDARDS  
DON'T DROP  
WHEN YOU RETIRE.

New pension laws taking effect from July 1st will mean greater opportunities than ever to plan for the retirement income you deserve. But first you need to find out about the new laws — and how you can benefit from them most — by reading our free Pensions Guide.

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THE NEW  
PENSION LAWS

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## STRAIGHT ANSWERS TO STRAIGHT QUESTIONS

Is it the only safe place  
left to invest?Don't delay, Afcor  
investors are told

Investors who believe they may be owed money or shares by Afcor Investments, the share-dealer and market-maker that was put into receivership this week, should not delay putting in their claims.

The receiver, Alan Barrett, of accountants Deloitte, Haskins and Sells, hopes to have a clear picture of the company's affairs in two weeks' time, although it will be many more months' before individual claims are sorted out.

Letters are being sent out on Monday to all those who either owe or are owed money by Afcor. All who feel they have matters to settle with the company can get in touch with the receivers without waiting for a formal letter.

Paul Davis, of Deloitte, who is managing the receivership and working at Afcor's offices in Finsbury Square, London, with the company's backroom staff, says claimants should not visit the office or telephone. "Each query takes a long time to sort out and we cannot deal with people in person," he said.

Instead, they should send in copies of contract notes, share certificates and any other documents that could substantiate a claim.

It is likely that investors who have a claim against Afcor's nominee company will be treated separately from the general pool of investors. "We expect that there will be more claims than there are shares in the nominee company," said Mr Davis.

But individuals who can lay claim to particular shares will be matched with the shares in the nominee company, and on payment of the 0.5 per cent



The Afcor logo

stamp duty, the shares will be re-registered in their names.

One of the problems with which the receiver will have to deal is the fact that in a "fairly large" number of shareholdings Afcor was the only market-maker, so until and unless another market-maker makes a market in the share, the holdings will be impossible to value.

The receivers were called in by Afcor's bankers, Standard Chartered, when the company could not meet about £800,000 of borrowings.

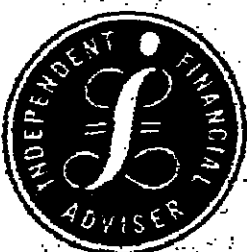
At its peak Afcor had about 4,000 clients but it is believed that there were only around 200 active dealing clients affected by this week's order to Afcor to cease trading.

Afcor had applied to Fimbra, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association, and the Securities Association, and was trading as an interim authorized company under the Financial Services Act. The compensation fund is not yet in place.

Claims or inquiries should be sent to the receiver, Mr Alan J. Barrett, Deloitte, Haskins and Sells, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX.

Vivien Goldsmith

**DON'T SIGN  
ANYTHING  
UNLESS  
YOU SEE  
THIS SIGN.**



ASK FOR INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVICE

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The world? Well, world stockmarkets to be precise.

Hardly safe you may think. Indeed, after the events of last October, you may prefer your friendly high street building society.

It's certainly safe. However, if you lock all your money away, you're reducing the potential to make it really grow.

But, in the new and shifting world of international stockmarkets, can you build your money with any degree of security?

The straight answer is that, as always, it is impossible to offer any guarantees. The facts suggest, however, that over the long-term, world stockmarkets can offer you a real opportunity to build substantial returns on your hard-earned savings.

**Why shouldn't I keep all my savings in a building society?**

The straight answer — you may be missing out on some significant long-term gains.

Just look at the comparison between the returns you could have made from your building society over the past eight years, against the money you could have made from an average-performing unit trust. And, if you look at the returns from a top-performing trust (like Fidelity Special Situations Trust), the comparison becomes even more telling. Even after the Crash of '87.

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**Why should I invest in the world stockmarkets now?**

The fact is that one of the best investment policies is to take advantage of short-term worries and buy into sound companies at relatively depressed share prices. This kind of situation currently exists in most major markets.

- The U.K., still 25% below its high, offers real opportunities, with strong economic growth and rising productivity.
- In Continental Europe, corporate restructuring has already started to prepare for the single European market in 1992 and this is opening up new investment opportunities now.
- In the U.S., major sectors of the economy are being revitalised and many companies, particularly the smaller and less well-known, are performing strongly.
- Even in Japan, where prices have moved to an all time high, analysts predict even further profit potential.

It's wise not to limit yourself to just one market but to spread your risk — and potential reward — across a number. In effect, invest in the world.



**Why should I invest with Fidelity?**

Everybody would like to buy at the bottom of the stockmarket cycle. And sell at the top. But, of course, nobody can achieve this consistently. The skill comes in the ability to pick out companies with good long-term prospects. Not just in the U.K. — but around the world. And that's where the international resources of Fidelity come in.

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£1 billion in assets — making us the eighth largest unit trust company in Britain today.

As a subsidiary of Fidelity International Limited (FIL), we're able to draw on the research strength and local market knowledge of FIL's other subsidiaries which span the globe from San Francisco to Tokyo, Paris to Taipei. In addition, our management team has access to the research resources of the mighty Fidelity Management & Research Corporation — FIL's American counterpart.

With management and research professionals covering the world offering round the clock investment expertise, the Fidelity Organisation has just the international scope investors need these days.

**O.K. What do I do now?**

Probably the worst investment decision you can make is to do nothing.

Of course, we aren't suggesting that you expose all of your savings to the rewards and risks of stockmarket investment. In fact, you should always have sufficient savings, readily available in a bank or building society account. But only by exposing a sensible portion of your savings to the potential rewards of stockmarket investment, can you really build your money over the long-term.

Talk to your professional adviser and discuss your needs and objectives. Decide whether you require growth, income or a combination of the two. You can then look in more detail at the potential benefits of investing in one or a number of our 21 unit trusts. Your professional adviser will be able to recommend the Fidelity trusts that best meet your needs.

If you don't have a professional adviser, you can always discuss your requirements in detail by calling us free on 0800 414161 any time from 9 in the morning until 9 at night, 7 days a week.

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Please tick box if you want one of our advisers to call you ☐

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(Please print clearly)

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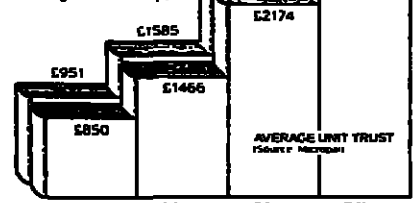
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Growth since 1979

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## FAMILY MONEY

ROWAN BARNES-MURPHY



It is a law of nature that pensions do not become interesting until you have to live on one. So you can be forgiven if the recent spate of publicity about changes to rules on company pensions has passed you by, writes Maria Scott.

And even if it has not, you can still be forgiven if you remain confused about how the changes affect you.

Family Money, with actuaries and pensions consultants The Wyatt Company, has devised a quiz that addresses the issues you should be debating if you are one of the estimated 10 million people contributing to a company pension scheme.

From April 6 you have had the right to leave your company scheme and make your own retirement arrangements, through a personal pension when these become available

## Your path through the pensions maze

at the beginning of July, or to do nothing at all.

But how do you decide whether you should bail out? There are two strands to the decision before you.

**FIRST**, you need to know whether a company scheme is best, in principle, for you. This will depend on how long you plan to stay with your present employer and how many times you are likely to move jobs. The rule of thumb is that the younger you are and the more upwardly mobile you are likely to be, the less likely

it is that a company scheme will be best.

**SECONDLY**, you need to consider whether the scheme your company offers is a good one or not.

Our quiz is divided into two parts, dealing with each issue in turn. You may need to get information from the managers of your plan to answer the questions.

There is no denying that pensions are complicated and the quiz is not designed to give you the last word on what you

schemes to keep the loyalty of their employees.

Alternatively, you might think about supplementing the company scheme with contributions to a private additional voluntary contribution (AVC) scheme.

Conversely, if you are in your early twenties and expect to change jobs several times in the next few years, you are unlikely to do yourself any harm by leaving the company scheme even if the quiz rates it as a winner.

The quiz simply attempts to give you an indication of the direction in which you should be moving and whether you might need further specialist advice.

It works equally well for those who are being offered a company scheme for the first time and must decide whether to join.

### PART ONE: Does a company scheme suit you (tick box)?

1. Have you completed less than five years' service?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
2. Are you intending to change jobs in the next five years?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
3. Is it unimportant to you to have benefits for dependants if you die before retirement?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
4. Will your company offer you more than one opportunity to rejoin?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
5. If you leave the company scheme, would your National Insurance contributions remain the same (i.e. is your company scheme contracted into the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme, SERPS)? Remember, if you are in a contracted-out company scheme and you leave it, you will have to pay higher NI contributions.  
Yes ☐ No ☐
6. If you have to contribute to the company scheme as well as the employer, are there more pressing priorities to spend your money on, a mortgage, for example?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

**Your score:** If the majority of your answers are No, then it appears that a company scheme would suit your needs. But to find out whether your particular scheme is a good one, proceed to part two. If the majority of your answers are Yes and you have to contribute to your current scheme yourself, you might want to consider a personal pension plan, when these become available in July.

### PART TWO: Is your company scheme a good one (tick box)?

1. When you retire will your retirement income (state plus company pension) be at least:  
A third of your pay after 20 years' service?  
Yes ☐ No ☐  
Half pay after 30 years?  
Yes ☐ No ☐  
Two-thirds pay after 40 years (i.e. one-sixtieth for every year of membership)?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
2. Will your company scheme provide your pension with some protection against inflation?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
3. If you die before you retire would your company scheme pay out at least three times your salary, at the time of your death, as a lump sum?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
4. If you die before you retire, would your spouse (husband or wife) get a pension equivalent to at least half what your pension would have been if you had survived to retirement?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
5. If you die after retiring, would your spouse get a pension of at least half your pension?  
Yes ☐ No ☐
6. If you have to give up work before retirement because of illness or injury, would you receive at least half your pay until you reached your normal retirement date?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

**Your score:** If you answer Yes to the majority of the questions above, then it would appear that you are in a good company scheme. If the majority of answers are No, but you know that a company scheme is a good idea for you in the long run, you have already contributed for some years, you may want to press for improvements or supplement it with an additional voluntary contribution scheme run by someone outside the company scheme.

**A final word of warning:** If you are thinking of opting out of your company scheme, think long and hard before you leap. Get as much information as you can from independent advisers on the alternatives and compare this with what the managers of your scheme have to say.

## Union threat to L&G

The financial services union MSF is threatening industrial action against the insurance group Legal & General over its plan to offer pay rises to employees opting out of the company's pension scheme.

"I have seen some misguided proposals from employers but this one takes the biscuit," protested Digby Jacks, the MSF divisional officer.

The union is advising members not to accept and has tried to persuade L&G to modify its plan so that the increase would have to go into a personal pension.

Negotiations have now broken down and Mr Jacks says that in the next fortnight his officials will consider how to advance the union's case. They

could eventually recommend action against L&G.

L&G's plan is to offer 5 per cent to those aged between 20 and 40 who opt out, 7.5 per cent to those aged 40-50, and 10 per cent to those over 50.

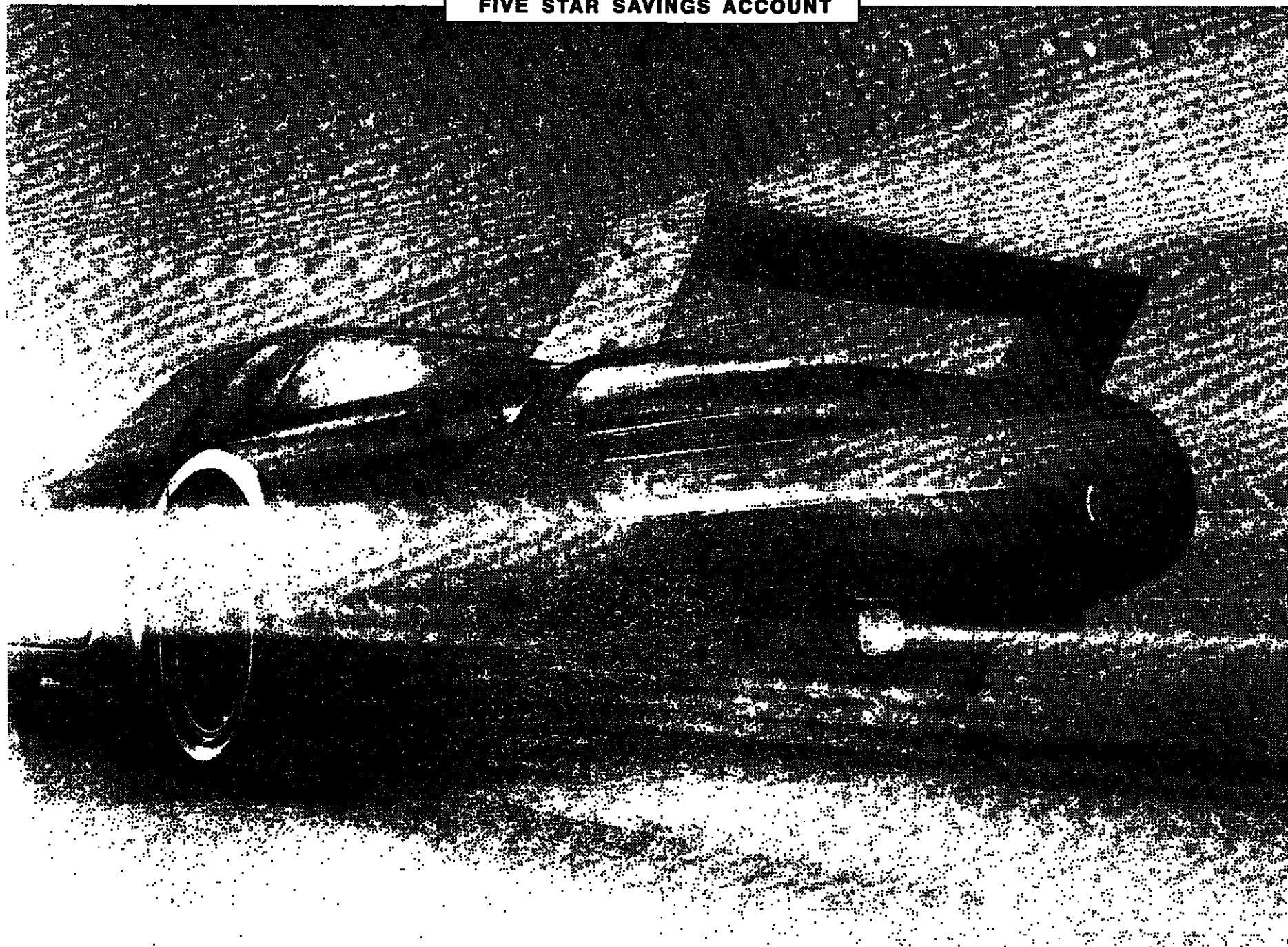
But Chris Hatry, L&G's pensions director, denies the company wants people to leave its scheme.

L&G employees do not have to contribute to their company scheme themselves and the scheme is contracted out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme, meaning that if they leave they will have to pay higher National Insurance contributions.

The offer is being made to compensate leavers for an effective salary cut, he said.

MS

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## FAMILY MONEY

## Cut-rate private health

A new cut-price private health insurance scheme to attract two million young and elderly subscribers was launched by Britain's largest private health insurers, BUPA, this week.

The Budget BUPA scheme designed mainly for the under-30s and the over-65s covers only surgery and is aimed at attracting those people who have to wait longest for an NHS operation.

BUPA also hopes to attract a much wider range of social groups than those now insured, including blue-collar and clerical workers.

The premiums, which in some age groups are 50 per cent lower than existing BUPA rates, cover the seven procedures that account for the bulk of NHS waiting lists — hernia operations, varicose vein surgery, hip replacements, joint replacements, tonsillectomies, cataract removals and medically nec-

It is also unlikely that patients will be covered for existing complaints.

Under the new scheme subscribers can opt for even lower rates if they pay the first £250 or the first £1,000 for a treatment. But BUPA says it has not included a no-claims bonus as this has failed to attract subscribers in the past.

Announcing the scheme, Roy Clarke, managing director of BUPA insurance, said it had been made possible because BUPA had negotiated reduced rates for operations with 85 specially selected private hospitals as well as NHS hospitals with pay beds throughout the country.

BUPA has agreed fixed-price procedures for every operation with every hospital. Some of Britain's most expensive private hospitals, particularly those in London, and all American Medical International hospitals, are not on the list because they failed to agree to the lower rates.

The hospitals included on the list in London, for instance, include the London Bridge Hospital, the Churchill Clinic and the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers.

Under the deal any patient can be treated in a hospital of his or her own choice after the family doctor's referral, provided it is on the agreed list, within five weeks. Alternatively, the patient can be admitted immediately to an NHS pay bed.

Mr Clarke admitted that because the scheme had been

negotiated with a limited number of hospitals, waiting lists could build up in the private sector for the first time. But he pointed out that NHS hospitals, now keen to generate income, could capitalise on the venture. Ironically, patients could be seen more quickly in an NHS pay bed than in a private hospital.

If the NHS invested in more private beds it could earn a substantial profit as the fixed rates negotiated are higher than existing NHS costs, said Mr Clarke.

At the moment about 5.5 million people are covered by private health insurance in the UK. BUPA covers about 60 per cent or 3.2 million. However, in recent years BUPA has lost its market share to newcomers that have offered more competitive rates with less comprehensive cover.

"Budget BUPA is a key element in our strategy for substantially increasing the number of people covered by private health care," said Mr Clarke. "It fits in well with the emerging philosophy that people should take more responsibility for their own health care and that of their families."

He said that it would be unlikely to divert existing subscribers who had more comprehensive cover, but would appeal to the young

who felt they could not afford or did not need comprehensive cover and the elderly who might have just come out of company schemes and felt existing insurance plans were prohibitively costly.

Private Patients Plan has been running a slim-line insurance scheme since 1983. The Private Hospital Plan allows patients to have private medical care if the waiting list for their particular problem is longer than six weeks. A parallel plan for the elderly, called Retirement Health Plan, gives the same deal for the elderly. From July 1 there will be no maximum age for joining.

Healthfirst, part of the Sun Alliance group, runs Prompt Care, which mirrors the PPP scheme for those up to 60, and Senior Care for those aged 60 to 74, offering private hospital treatment if the NHS waiting lists are longer than 12 weeks.

A single adult aged 30 would pay £7.70 a month, one aged 55-60 would pay £15.90, and a 65-year-old £22.50.

Healthfirst also runs Life Wise, which covers women just for breast and cervical cancer. This is cheaper for those who have had a health screen within the past three years. Thus a 25-year-old will pay £5.50 a month if she has not been screened and £4.50 if she has been. A 65-year-old will pay either £8.50 or £7.50.

Jill Sherman

Social Services Correspondent

## Small-scale justice that gets results

The civil justice review body, whose report is due next month, is expected to recommend that the small claims courts be made into a new local tier of justice with the present £500 maximum claim doubled to £1,000 to extend the number of cases that can be handled in this informal setting. TRACEY JEUNE reports on how the system works

Jeff Higley, a maker of puppets and masks, was angry when he called to collect one of his leather masks from an exhibition. "I was delayed by a day, but when I did get there, it had disappeared, and nobody could establish what had happened to it," he said.

The organizers thought the cleaners had thrown away the box holding it and they pointed to the disclaimer of responsibility in the exhibition contract. The mask, representing "a flesh-eating demon from a Japanese myth", had taken 10 days to construct, and Mr Higley put its value at £80.

He made one trip to the county court, to start small claims proceedings. Then, several weeks later, a cheque for £80 arrived for Mr Higley, along with a letter from the organizers saying they were settling out of court.

If you have ever left a shop furious because the manager has refused to exchange faulty goods, or had a suit ruined by the dry-cleaners, but been deterred by hefty legal costs from taking the matter further, then the small claims court offers an easy and efficient way of obtaining justice — and getting your money back.

You do not have to be wealthy to make a complaint in this type of court, because instead of using a courtroom,

lawyers and a jury, no solicitors are employed. Instead, the judgment is made at "arbitration" by the court registrar, or other legally qualified person, who decides whether your claim is justified. You may not even have to appear, if the defendant does not dispute the claim.

The whole operation is small-scale, right down to the costs. There is an initial court fee, at present a minimum of

**'I was impressed at how easy it was'**

£7 or 10p for every £1 claimed. If it is necessary to send a bailiff to serve the defendant with a summons, the minimum cost is £7.50 or 15p for every £1 claimed.

If the arbitrator finds in your favour, your opponent must pay your expenses, including the court costs and travelling fares, plus compensation for loss of earnings by you or any witnesses you may have had to call.

Of course, if you lose the action, you have to pay these costs to the defendant.

Although the 300 county courts in England and Wales can deal with claims up to £5,000, more than 1.5 million of the 2.3 million claims proceedings made in 1986 were for £500 or less — small claims.



The winners: Mr and Mrs Higley succeeded out of court

"I was really impressed at how easy it was to make a claim. It was not the money itself, but the attitude of those responsible which irritated me," says Mr Higley.

It is a simple procedure, uncomplicated as far as possible by legal jargon, except for words such as "plaintiff" (the claimant) and "defendant" (the one being accused).

Michael Birks, the West London county court registrar, warns: "There is little to be gained from winning an action if your opponent has no money to pay the judgment debt. You should consider this question carefully before you start proceedings." The first step in making a small claim is to go to your local Citizens' Advice Bureau or Consumer Advice Centre. Either of these will tell you whether you should try the small claims court or other proceedings.

To start a small claim, you have to fill in a form called a "request" from the county court. On this you set down written details of the action, and how much you want to claim. You may wish to include interest payments on the claim as well. The court staff will advise you whether this applies to your case. You must have the correct name and address of the person you are suing as well, or your claim could be held up.

Often notification of the

proceedings is enough to push a shop or business into settling out of court. Inspired by Mr Higley's success, his wife Sheila complained to a large shoe chain that the £21 pair of so-called "kid-proof, tough, hard-wearing" shoes worn by her nine-year-old son Simon was ruined within four weeks.

The shop manager was unhelpful but he sent them to the manufacturer, which denied responsibility. Mrs Higley

**Take paperwork to the court**

began a small claim. Within days the shop manager refunded the full amount, so the case did not proceed.

Once the request has been processed, the defendant may not contest the claim. The registrar may look at the written evidence and make a judgment on that alone.

If you have to attend court it will usually be for a preliminary hearing. You should take any bills or relevant paperwork. The court is more likely to look favourably on your case, if you have tried other ways first to reclaim the money — either by complaining to the shop or the manufacturer in writing.

If the claim is still in dispute after this, the case goes to arbitration, which takes place in a private room of the court

## WHAT IT COSTS

## SUBSCRIPTIONS PER PERSON PER MONTH FOR THOSE JOINING IN 1988

Age bands	Budget BUPA (no excess)	Budget BUPA (optional excess £250)	Budget BUPA (optional excess £1,000)	Healthfirst Crusader	Healthfirst Prompt Care Plan	PPP PIP	PPP Retirement Plan
Single	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
0-17	4.00	3.00	—	—	3.90 <sup>1</sup>	7.80	—
18-24	7.74	5.73	—	11.84	7.70	7.80	—
25-29	8.50	6.29	—	11.84	7.70	7.80	—
30-34	9.24	6.84	—	12.74	9.20	10.55	—
35-39	9.95	7.38	—	12.74	9.20	10.55	—
40-44	11.00	8.47	—	12.74	10.80	10.55	—
45-49	12.80	9.57	—	12.74	12.00	10.55	—
50-54	13.35	10.74	7.84	17.98	13.30	13.85	—
55-59	14.95	11.81	8.97	17.98	15.90	13.85	—
60-64	16.97	13.75	10.35	17.98	17.50 <sup>2</sup>	13.85	12.50
65-69	20.98	16.98	12.79	—	20.40 <sup>2</sup>	24.70	17.05
70-74	25.00	21.06	16.90	—	25.00 <sup>2</sup>	24.70	23.00
75-79	33.20	26.89	21.58	—	—	24.70	30.70
80+	on request	on request	on request	on request	on request	on request	40.55

<sup>1</sup> Dependent child rate applies up to the age of 21. <sup>2</sup> Rates for SeniorCare plan are with effect from March 1, 1987

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☐ Please reserve an account.

☐ Please send more details.

Full Name(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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If you require your interest payments to be made to another C&G Account, your bank account or your home, please give details in writing. C/G/T2

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## The prize bank

Barclays Bank is pushing its Barclayloan personal loans to prospective car-buyers with a competition offering a range of glamorous prizes. The winner gets an apartment in Milos Costa, Spain, and there are 10 second prizes of holidays for two at cities on the international Grand Prix circuit. This is in addition to 50 motorizing trips with free fuel, travel and petrol and 500 picnic hampers.

The promotion is billed as the Barclayloan for Cars Competition, as it is intended to promote the use of personal loans for car purchases. But you do not have to take out a loan or use one to buy a car to enter. Entry forms are available from Barclays branches, and entrants are simply asked to match six photographs of famous sites in European cities with names of cities on a list provided. The first 561 correct entries will go into a ballot for prizes.

Those who do buy a car with a Barclayloan during the competition period, which runs until July 23, get a week's free hotel accommodation in Britain, Europe or the United States.

## Backing Wales

If you like the idea of combining a risk-free investment with the opportunity to boost the Welsh economy, the trade union bank Unity Trust has just the thing. It is launching a Welsh Investment Certificate, which places the investor's money on deposit with the bank for a minimum of three months. Deposits up to £25,000 earn interest at 0.75 percentage points below the bank's prevailing base rate, at present 8 per cent, while amounts over this limit get 0.25 points below base rate. The minimum

## Reprive in pension farce

Pension mortgages have had a reprieve. Last month Family Money reported the concern in the pensions industry on the tough line the Inland Revenue appeared to be taking on the future of pension-linked mortgages. Some industry officials feared the demise of this highly tax-efficient device for repaying a home loan after the introduction of personal pensions in July.

But the Association of British Insurers has now been assured by the Revenue's superannuation funds office that it will be possible to promote the use of pension lump sums to pay off mortgages. The Revenue is still adamant that it will not allow pension contracts to state specifically that the proceeds of the policy will be used to repay a mortgage. But Bob Lusk, controller of the superannuation funds office, says in his letter to the ABI: "Provided that the provision of pension benefits from a particular scheme and of a mortgage facility are treated as quite unrelated matters, there is no objection to a reference to pension mortgages in any separate advertising literature."

investment is £5,000. All the money will be invested in Welsh enterprises.

## Going down

Mortgage rates continue to tumble but in the South-East it is still hard to beat the 8.9 per cent being offered by the Japanese bank Sumitomo. Chemical Bank, however, has reduced its mortgage rate to 9.45 per cent, immediately for new borrowers and from June 4 for existing borrowers. The bank is also introducing a 0.5 percentage point discount on its rate for the first 12 months for those applying from last Wednesday until July 31. Under this deal the current rate for new borrowers is 8.95 per cent.

The Life Association of Scotland has reduced the interest rate on its First Step Mortgage scheme from 10.25 to 9.5 per cent. First Step offers 100 per cent mortgages for first-time buyers.

Another insurance company, Cannon Lincoln,

has reduced its mortgage rate by 0.8 points to 8.4 per cent.

## New guide

Britain's 10 million pensioners rely on investments for an average of 14 per cent of their income, according to Age Concern, which has just published the latest edition of its guide to taxes and savings in retirement.

The guide moves from the very basic facts about how the tax system works and what the rates are, through to Inheritance Tax and the principles of lump-sum investment. It has been updated to take in the 1988 Budget changes to the tax system and also to explain the implications of the Financial Services Act.

**Your Taxes & Savings 1988-89**, by the financial journalist John Burke, costs £2.50 and is available from bookshops and Age Concern groups or from the organization direct. Write to the Marketing Department (P41), Age Concern England, 60 Piccadilly Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL.

## BAA hotline

Debenhams Investment Services, the share-dealing operation from branches of Debenhams department stores, is running a hotline for BAA shareholders ahead of the April 19 deadline for payment of the final instalment. Shareholders will be able to get advice on the options open to them and there will be a special reduced commission rate for sales of BAA shares.

The list rate is 1 per cent plus VAT with a minimum commission of £10. Those who want to sell should send their interim share certificate, with a letter instructing Debenhams to "sell at best" to Dept BAA, Debenhams Investment Services, 214 Oxford Street, London W1N 9DF. Shareholders can telephone the Debenhams hotline, 01-439 0306.

**Look out for strike insurance.** A policy is to be launched later this month to cushion the self-employed and businesses against the financial consequences of a strike in which they are not personally involved.

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## FAMILY MONEY

## The higher charges that become crucial

Unit trust annual charges are rising. Fidelity has led the way and the larger groups, including Barclays, N.M. Schroder, Save & Prosper, TSB, Henderson and MIM Britannia, have signalled likely increases before the end of the year.

The old norm of 1 per cent seems to be fast going — to be replaced by 1.5 or even 1.75 or 2 per cent. The unit trust companies justify the rise by pointing to the costs of complying with the Financial Services Act and additional services to unitholders.

Investors must now decide whether to accept the increases, fight back or look for a better value method of managing their money.

In the past, unitholders have not been cost-sensitive. After all, who was going to fuss over a quarter or a half of a percentage point when the trust itself was gaining perhaps 30 or 40 per cent a year?

But now market conditions have changed. "Unitholders can vote with their feet," says Peter Hargreaves, of Bristol brokers Hargreaves Lans-

down. He concedes, however, that with the near 6 per cent cost of switching from one management company to another, it will take about eight years to recoup a half-point rise — effectively 0.575 points once VAT is included — and twice that long to get back 0.25. And then there is no guarantee that the new company will not raise charges.

Many trusts deeds demand a ballot of unitholders before any change. Deeds of pre-1980 funds usually insist that unitholders vote on every change. The rules usually require a minimum number of holders taking part, although if that quorum is not found after a certain time, the decision usually depends on those voting.

Newer trust deeds have a maximum and, provided that figure is not exceeded, the unit trust group can increase costs at three months' notice. The only time a vote is needed is when that ceiling needs to be raised.

"Within the limits laid down by the trust deed," says Nick Wells, of Sun Life, which has no present plans for an increase, "the managers have the holders over a barrel."

The Securities and Investments Board has proposed that trust deeds with a high ceiling be outlawed but so far no firm decision has been made. This threat may well explain the frantic annual charge-raising activity in certain groups.

In the past unitholders have been reluctant to vote, and in many trusts, pension and life funds in the same stable are dominant holders and they can outvote smaller unitholders.

But voting can sometimes work. Holders of two Fidelity funds recently said No to that



Fitzalan-Howard: protests

of all investment trust shares are held by institutions. They can hold charges down by putting behind-the-scenes pressures on an investment trust management.

"Investment trusts have two sets of costs," says Lord Mark Fitzalan-Howard, at Robert Fleming. "There is the annual fee for investment management, which could in theory be raised by a board decision, and there are the other costs of running a company such as sending out reports, directors' fees and registration."

"The costs in the second category are audited while the possibility of a shareholder protest would have to be taken into account before any decision was made to increase the investment management fee."

Keith Falconer, of the Martin Currie group of investment trusts, which includes Scottish Eastern and Securities Trust of Scotland, suggests that unit trust holders pay heavily for marketing.

"And the adverts are just like those for soap powder or cornflakes — they tell you nothing that will aid rational decision-making," he says. "As public companies, investment trusts are much more accountable both to shareholders and the public than unit trusts. Our investors look at what we charge for pension fund money and expect the costs to be on the same scale."

When unit trusts charge 0.75 per cent as some still do, they have little disadvantage over investment trusts. But once unit trusts groups start to talk of 1.5 per cent and beyond, long-term investors must believe that the unit trust performs substantially better than an investment trust whatever the state of the equity markets.

A thousand pounds invested for 10 years in a unit trust with a 5.5 per cent initial charge and a 0.75 per cent annual charge would result in a sum of £2,716, assuming a growth rate of 12 per cent.

The same sum in an identical unit trust where the annual charge was 1.5 per cent would result in £2,536 after selling costs, but an investment trust such as Fleming Claverhouse, which has an annual charge of 0.68 per cent, would result in a sum of £2,809 after 10 years, again assuming growth at 12 per cent.

Tony Levene

## Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

Stock	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+3	+4	+5	+3		
2	+5	+7	+4	+6		
3	+5	+4	+4	+5		
4	+4	+7	+8	+2		
5	+4	+4	+6	+3		
6	+4	+6	+7	+2		
7	+6	+8	+5	+5		
8	+3	+3	+5	+5		
9	+6	+7	+3	+5		
10	+3	+4	+4	+4		
11	+4	+3	+5	+4		
12	+4	+4	+4	+2		
13	+5	+5	+6	+1		
14	+4	+4	+3	+3		
15	+6	+5	+3	+4		
16	+6	+5	+6	+3		
17	+3	+3	+4	+2		
18	+4	+2	+3	+4		
19	+5	+2	+4	+3		
20	+7	+5	+4	+5		
21	+2	+5	+5	+2		
22	+5	+7	+7	+1		
23	+6	+8	+4	+5		
24	+2	+4	+5	+2		
25	+5	+5	+6	+2		
26	+4	+4	+5	+4		
27	+3	+4	+6	+3		
28	+6	+7	+5	+5		
29	+3	+9	+4	+3		
30	+6	+7	+5	+2		
31	+5	+7	+3	+6		
32	+5	+3	+3	+5		
33	+5	+8	+8	+3		
34	+3	+5	+6	+4		
35	+5	+7	+4	+5		
36	+4	+2	+3	+3		
37	+4	+5	+8	+3		
38	+7	+7	+3	+5		
39	+4	+5	+5	+4		
40	+6	+5	+7	+2		
41	+3	+3	+5	+3		
42	+5	+5	+3	+4		
43	+5	+5	+5	+2		
44	+4	+3	+4	+4		



Hargreaves: "Vote with feet"

group's proposals to raise charges, leaving Fidelity to absorb the extra cost.

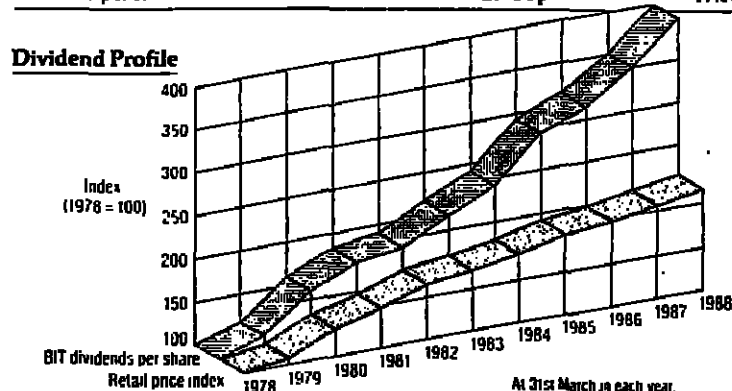
Faced with sharp increases in charges, investors could seek another form of management. The annual charges of investment trusts can be as low as a quarter of the comparable unit trust.

Both unit and investment trusts can produce figures to show their superiority. But lower annual charges are an undeniable advantage over the longer term for investment trusts. And small shareholders have a large measure of protection on the costs from because about three-quarters

## The BRITISH INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

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Highlights of the Year	1988 (Unaudited)	1987
Ordinary Shareholders' funds	£383,075,000	£428,494,000
Net asset value per share	614p	687p
Income	£18,447,000	£16,472,000
Earnings per share	20.57p	17.27p
Dividend per share	19.00p	17.00p



Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary, The British Investment Trust PLC, 40 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3BR, Telephone 031-225 2348.

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## Call for power to dismiss abandoned arbitrations

Food Corporation of India v Anticzo Shipping Corporation

Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman, Lord Ackner and Lord Goff of Chieveley (Speeches May 5)

The House of Lords should consider whether to confer a power to dismiss claims in arbitrations for want of prosecution, similar to the power to dismiss actions in the courts.

The House of Lords so stated when dismissing on the facts an appeal by the charterers, the Food Corporation of India, from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kerr, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Bingham) (*The Times* April 27, 1987; [1987] 2 Lloyd's Rep 130) who affirmed the dismissal by Mr Justice Evans (1986) 1 Lloyd's Rep 181 of the charterers' summons for an injunction restraining further proceedings in an arbitration commenced by the owners, Anticzo Shipping Corporation, and of a declaration that the arbitration had been abandoned by mutual consent.

Mr Stewart Boyd, QC and Mr Bernard Eder for the charterers; Mr Anthony Clarke, QC and Mr Charles Haddon-Cave for the owners.

LORD GOFF said that the present case provided yet another example of those cases

in which it had been contended that where an arbitration had been allowed to go to sleep for many years, the parties should be precluded from proceeding further with it.

The effect of the decision in *Bremer Vulkan Schiffbau und Maschinenfabrik v South India Shipping Corporation* ([1981] AC 909) and the reasoning on which it was based had provoked serious disquiet among the whole commercial community. In particular, it had been suggested that the mutual obligations resting on both parties to proceed with their reference to arbitration as expressed by Lord Diplock bore no relation to commercial reality.

It had been suggested that by virtue of an implication in the contract containing the reference to arbitration, a term should be implied to the effect that the right to proceed with an arbitration might lapse after the expiry of a reasonable time during which the arbitration proceedings were not proceeded with.

A second suggestion was that the court might exercise its power under section 1 of the Arbitration Act 1950 to give leave to revoke the authority of one or more of the arbitrators, coupled if necessary with an order under section 25(2)(b) that the arbitration agreement should cease to have effect with regard to the relevant dispute.

Neither suggestion had hitherto been explored in litigation; indeed it was not easy to reconcile the former with the mutual obligation to proceed with the arbitration as expressed by Lord Diplock in *Bremer Vulkan*.

On the findings of fact in the present, which were unassailable, the appeal was bound to fail, and it was not an appropriate case in which to conduct a review of the earlier authorities.

There had been clearly expressed, by all members of the Court of Appeal in the present case, grave concern about the law as it stood with regard to arbitrations which had been allowed to go to sleep for many years.

It might be that the problem could be dealt with most expeditiously, and most clearly, by legislation conferring a power to dismiss claims in arbitrations for want of prosecution, similar to the power which now existed to dismiss similar actions for want of prosecution in the courts.

If that was right, the sooner the matter was brought before the legislature for consideration, the better.

Lord Bridge, Lord Brandon, Lord Brightman and Lord Ackner agreed.

Solicitors: Zaiwalla & Co, Holman Fenwick & Willan.

## Pedlar is seller who trades as he travels not who travels to trade

Watson v Oldrey, Watson v Malloy, Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Hutchison (Judgment May 5)

A pedlar was an itinerant seller who traded as he travelled as distinct from one who merely travelled to trade.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment in allowing two appeals by way of case stated by Plymouth City Council against the dismissal by Plymouth City Justices, on January 28, 1987, of two informations which alleged unlawful street trading.

The Pedlars Act 1871 provides in section 3: "The term 'pedlar' means any hawk, pedlar, petty chapman, tinker, carrier of metals, mender of chairs, or other person who, without any horse or other beast bearing or drawing burden, travels and trades on foot and goes from town to town, or to other men's houses, carrying to sell or exposing for sale any goods, wares, or merchandise immediately to be delivered, or selling or offering for sale his skill in handicraft."

Mr Stephen Hockman for the council; Mr Jeremy Griggs for the traders.

MR JUSTICE HUTCHISON said the two cases had been heard together and there were no material factual differences. The information laid against Mr Malloy alleged that he had

engaged in street trading, namely that on November 8, 1986, he sold wrapping paper from a portable stand at a stationary position in Old Town Street, Plymouth, which was a "coarse street" without being authorized to do so under Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

A "coarse street" was defined in paragraph (1) as one in which street trading was prohibited without the consent of the district council.

The justices found that Mr Malloy travelled all over the country by motor vehicle to Leeds, Manchester and London selling merchandise from a portable stand, but spent the greater part of the year in the West country.

It was as a result of some oversight or mischance that Mr Malloy came to find himself without a valid pedlar's certificate on November 8.

The justices found that Mr Malloy could successfully rely on the defence of having taken all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of an offence by having applied for a certificate.

Implicit in that finding was the proposition that Mr Malloy was acting as a pedlar at the material time.

The point in the appeal which gave rise to general interest and which made it a test case was whether it was open to the

justices to hold that Mr Malloy was acting as a pedlar.

Mr Hockman submitted that the vital words of section 3 of the Pedlars Act were "travels and trades on foot". Those words were not to be found in the analogous (now repealed) Hawkers Act 1888. The succeeding words of the section imposed additional, not alternative, requirements.

If Mr Malloy was a pedlar, then so were market traders who set up their stalls on different days of the week in different towns and the restrictions imposed on street trading were virtually ineffective.

His Lordship found the popular conception of pedlar was someone who went around selling things or services — who sold on the move: he was an itinerant seller.

If the definition were to be encapsulated in an aphorism one might say that a pedlar was one who traded as he travelled as distinct from one who merely travelled to trade.

That did not mean he could not stop. The chair member stopped in order to mend chairs: but the feature which made him a pedlar was that he went from place to place going to the owners of the chairs rather than them coming to him.

Lord Justice Woolf agreed.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard for Mr A. Forbes Watson, Plymouth; Peter Fox & Co, Taunton.

## Jail inappropriate when capital assets available for rates bill

Regina v Birmingham Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Mansell

Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Hutchison (Judgment April 19)

Magistrates erred in committing a ratepayer to prison for non-payment of rates. The issue of the warrant of commitment was postponed on condition that Mr Mansell made weekly payments of £40 to discharge the arrears.

The second order, dated October 1, 1987 issued the warrant of commitment committing Mr Mansell to prison for 90 days as he had not paid anything.

The circumstances giving rise to Mr Mansell being committed were unusual as at the time he had very limited income but substantial capital assets. The application therefore raised the question of the appropriateness of such a person being committed to prison.

The consequence of prison was that the liability to the rating authority was extinguished. Thus the rating authority was deprived of any opportunity of obtaining the sum due. It also meant the pressure on the already overcrowded prisons was increased with the public bearing the cost.

There was a misunderstanding between Mr Mansell's solicitor and the justices as to whether the order of payment of £40 a week was made as a result of an appeal by Mr Mansell. However, that was not important. It was what happened on October 1 that was crucial.

On October 1, the justices conducted a means inquiry and Mr Mansell's solicitor tendered a letter dated July 16 written by Mr Mansell to the rating authority which set out the details of Mr Mansell's financial position.

It was clear that on Mr Mansell's weekly income of £113 he could not afford to pay

the arrears of rates which amounted to £434 at the rate of £40 a week. However, he was prepared to sell three of his properties to the council at their market value which would raise £32,000.

The justices said that they accepted the contents of the letter and they were satisfied that his means had not altered since July 16. By October 1 the properties had not been sold. They were satisfied that Mr Mansell was not going to pay and found no reason for further suspending the warrants.

The justices had erred as they had failed to investigate the possibility of obtaining the money from Mr Mansell's resources. The best way the rating authority could obtain the money they sought was to have a property sold.

If the justices were of the view that the offer to sell a property was merely a stratagem to put off the evil day, there was always the remedy of bankruptcy proceedings to enforce the sale.

While his Lordship did not go so far as to say that the justices were compelled to refuse any relief to the rating authority, it was not open to them to commit Mr Mansell without inquiring as to whether or not the rating authority was prepared to explore the possibility of civil proceedings.

Solicitors: George Jonas & Co, Birmingham; Treasury Solicitor.

## Amending ground of entry refusal

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Daydalen

Before Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith (Judgment May 4)

There was no rule that an immigration officer, having in a notice refusing leave to enter specified the grounds for the refusal, could not subsequently amend those grounds or substitute other grounds.

The Court of Appeal so stated, dismissing an appeal by Mrs Kiraz Daydalen from Mr Justice Kennedy who on February 9 had dismissed her application for judicial review of a decision of chief immigration officer to substitute other grounds of refusal for those which had been stated in the notice refusing her leave to enter the United Kingdom.

Mr Alper Riza for the applicant; Mr Nigel Fleming for the secretary of state.

LORD JUSTICE STOCKER said that the original grounds of refusal had been drawn on the

basis that the applicant had sought leave to enter indefinitely, and had referred to her lack of an entry clearance certificate. When it had been pointed out that she had been seeking only limited leave, the new grounds had been substituted.

The applicant had contended that the grounds were part of the notice of refusal and there was therefore no power to amend them or to substitute other grounds; and that she was entitled to have the original notice quashed on the basis that no reasonable immigration officer could have refused her admission on the original grounds.

She had argued that section 18(2) of the Immigration Act 1971 made the original notice, which had been issued pursuant to regulations made under section 18(1), conclusive of the grounds on which the refusal had been made.

Section 18(2) made such statements conclusive only for the purpose of appeals under Part II of the Act, and it was implicit in that that they were not conclusive for other purposes such as a challenge to the validity of the notice by judicial review. There was nothing in the 1971 Act which supported the argument that there was no power to amend or substitute grounds.

That conclusion was supported by convenience: if there were no power to amend the grounds of refusal, there was little likelihood that an applicant would be allowed to remain in the United Kingdom, as the applicant had been, while she raised objections to the validity of the notice.

Even if the applicant's argument had been right, it seemed unlikely that it would have been appropriate for the court in its discretion to quash the notice. If it had, the matter would have had to be remitted to the immigration officer for reconsideration. Such reconsideration had in effect already taken place, resulting in the substituted grounds.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice May agreed.

Solicitors: Sheridans; Treasury Solicitor.

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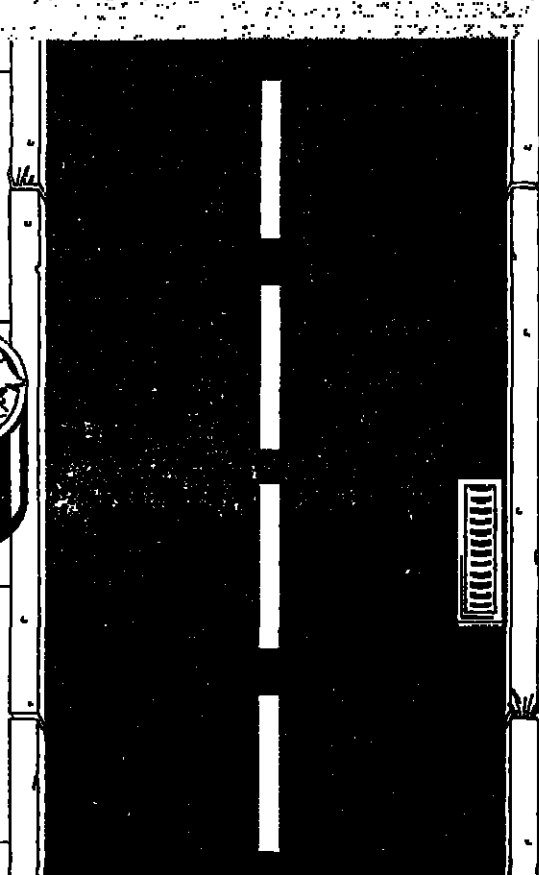
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## LEGAL AND FINANCIAL



**Z**ip into Leeds from its delightful little airport and within five minutes you realize that the city has recovered from its slight recession of the late 1970s. So great is the resurgence of the centre of Yorkshire industry that squadrons of merchant bankers now fly north every day to score a few hits on an important target. And, as you might guess, professional firms are converging in droves on the new office blocks going up in the city centre.

Take the example of the accountants Hodgson Impey. With a strong base in Hull and a country office near Bradford, the firm had always avoided Leeds. Earlier this year, however, it realized that it could no longer afford to do so. Encouraged by reports, repeated recently in the *Yorkshire Post*, that the city is now the country's leading provincial financial and legal centre, Hodgson Impey set up a three-partner practice in the heart of the city's commercial area. As partner, David Graham commented: "It was crying out for us to be here - we really should have made the move years ago."

So Leeds is clearly transformed from the days when it put the clothes on the back of the nation. Inspired with a new sense of destiny it is pulsing with an energy that draws in new investment.

New industries such as printing and electronics have moved in and the impact of all this on the established professional firms has been profound. There has been no room for complacency. Instead they have had to adjust constantly as their older clients were taken over or disappeared and new ones arrived.

Paramount among the accountants is Price Waterhouse, which includes in its client list the top 19 ples in the area. The firm has been in the city for decades and can rightly claim to have stuck with the place through thick and thin. Yet because of its very dominance, it is now the king of the castle which all the others are trying to unseat.

Any lack of concentration will be seized on and exploited for all it is worth by the other members of the Big Eight, which are constantly manoeuvring for position, trying to pick up the newer, smaller firms which will be the ples of the future.

Peter Meredith, a partner at Arthur Young, said: "We've organized a seminar recently on Ford with Hepworth & Chadwick, one of the best-established local solicitors. We found that there was a tremendous amount of interest, partly because we had Sir Kenneth Newman up to speak. Frankly, it's all part of throwing

## High-fliers look to the North

Leeds is now very much on the commercial map, writes Edward Fennell

one's bread on the water to see what comes back.

Link-ups for seminars between local firms of solicitors and accountants are commonplace in Leeds. Of all the senior partners I spoke to, only Stuart Counsell at Touche Ross was unconvinced that they helped bring in new business. The Touche Ross office at Leeds had built a reputation for its corporate finance work, said Mr Counsell, and in any case, had just merged with the local accountants Wheavil & Sudworth, so it now had on its books a range of medium to large clients.

He said: "But like everyone else we also want to run with the smaller companies. We can offer those which are growing the kind of hand-holding operation which can make a heck of a difference at a crucial stage in their development."

Whatever his scepticism over joint seminars, however, Mr Counsell admitted to being "staggered" by the quality of the law firms in Leeds. By common consent, there are six first-rate firms in the city, of which four are quite competitive with top London outfits.

According to the local solicitor, Alan Bottomley, however, London lawyers had already lost a lot of Yorkshire business by default. Mr Bottomley, generally considered the elder statesman of the Leeds business community, is a partner with the Bradford and Leeds solicitors A. V. Hammond, which has just merged with the similar firm of Last Suddards.

The newly merged firm of Hammond Suddards is likely to be a major force by any reckoning. Roger Suddards, the senior partner at Last Suddards, has a national, indeed an international reputation for his planning work and the combination of this with A. V. Ham-

mond's company and commercial work is likely to act as a magnet for clients throughout England and Wales.

Also just merged are Walker Morris & Coles and Scott Turnbull & Kendall, to form the new firm of Walker Morris Scott Turnbull (WMST). This merger could throw the conventional pecking order of Leeds firms into disarray if Walker Morris & Coles' young Turks have their way. Plans for a new greenfield-site building in the centre of Leeds are a mark of their determination to make the new firm go with zest.

Even so, WMST is shooting at some tough targets. Booth & Co., for example, has 20 partners and a total staff of 260. It is part of the M5 group and has the kind of weight which is hard to move. Meanwhile Simpson Curtis, with 19 partners, and a history going back to 1850, has handled more USM flotations than any other Leeds firm. It has also helped some clients through from start-up to going public and sees itself as a regional firm with strong interests down south. As a partner, Guy Harvey, explained, "We are not ruling out the possibility of opening a London office."

**H**epworth & Chadwick is in a similar position. As part of the "old Leeds", its roots reach back to the traditional clothing industry and its founding partner, Hepworth, belonged to the tailoring family. The connection has continued to this day and Hepworth and Chadwick includes trend-setting Next among its clients. Sponsorship of an important exhibition of Turner's *Book of Birds* in the Clore Gallery at the Tate later this year will raise its profile still further in the capital.

Robert Martin, the senior partner at Deloitte's, shares with Hepworth and Chadwick a taste for sponsoring the arts. A recent exhibition of Yorkshire contemporary art had the firm's name plastered across all six leading art galleries in the town. Obviously such a high profile is doing the firm a lot of good because over the last three years the firm has trebled its fee income.

As it happens, Deloitte's also shares floor space with Hepworth and Chadwick in the gleamingly new Cloth Hall Court in the centre of the city. Sitting snug in their smart and comfortable offices, which knock spots off most office blocks in London Wall, you can understand why more and more young solicitors and accountants are leaving the South-east to come here for partnerships. Business is booming and the demand for new partners is high. The White Rose, you might say, blooms again.

## LEGAL &amp; FINANCIAL SERVICES GUIDE

## SPOTLIGHT ON LEEDS

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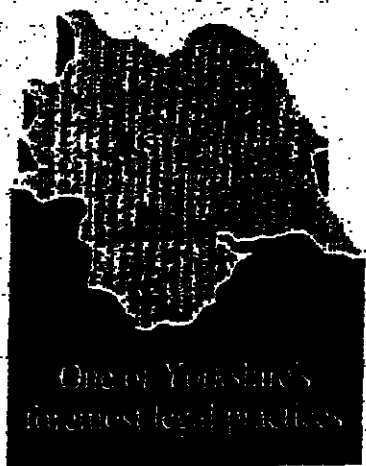
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## FOOTBALL: CHELSEA AND CHARLTON ATHLETIC REACH POINT OF NO RETURN

## Season of disappointment finishes with high drama

By Louise Taylor

A season dominated by dissent off the field and depressing performances on it reaches a climax at Stamford Bridge this afternoon, where Chelsea must beat Charlton Athletic in order to avoid the play-offs.

A series of barren performances has provided Chelsea with a solitary League win in 25 encounters since October, but Charlton have recovered from an abysmal start by unearthing an unexpected seam of 11 victories in their last 13 League matches.

After surviving the inaugural play-off last year, thanks to wins over Ipswich Town and Leeds United, Charlton are well versed in the art of escapology and aim to brush up on their Houdini routine by gaining at least a point today. If they succeed, not only will Chelsea have to join the play-offs but the chairman, Ken Bates, could lose his place on the League management committee.

Having parted company with John Hollins in March, Bates is depending on the caretaker manager, Bobby Campbell, to steer Chelsea clear of the division's "exclusion zone". Campbell described the match as "the most important in recent years for the club" and yesterday said: "Staying up is more important than winning the FA Cup. Wouldn't Reading give back the Simod Cup for six extra League points?"

Campbell is deprived of the midfield services of Hazard, who has an ankle injury and is replaced by Clive Wilson. By contrast, Lennie Lawrence, the Charlton manager, has no injury problems and names the 11 who finished the draw with Tottenham Hotspur on Monday.

The anxiety of Chelsea and

## HOW THEY STAND

● Liverpool (56 points) have already won the first division championship.

## BOTTOM OF FIRST DIVISION

Derby	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Derby	35	9	15	11	32	42	23
West Ham	35	9	15	11	32	42	23
Charlton	35	9	15	11	32	42	23

## TOP OF THIRD DIVISION

Sheff Wed	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
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the door will be opened for  
either Bradford City, who are  
at home to Ipswich Town, or  
Bristol Villa, who play away at



